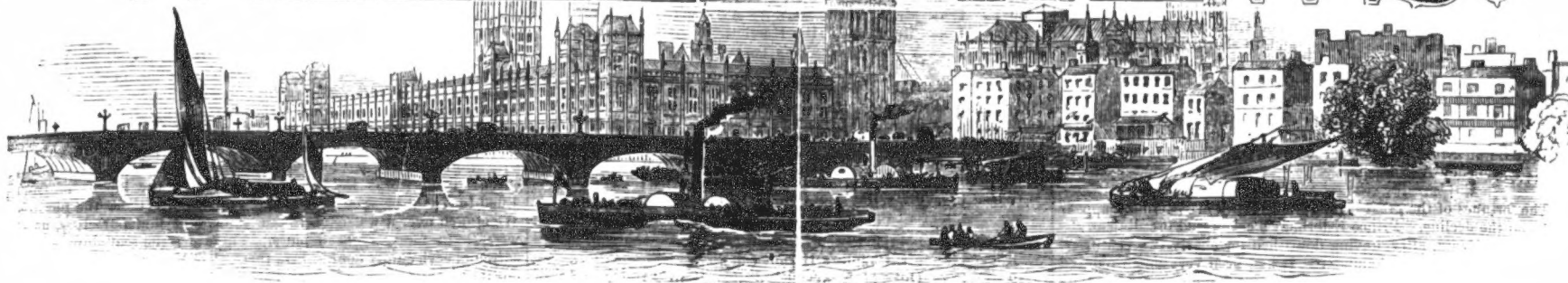


I. R. NEWSPAPER REGY.
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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1867.

ONE PENNY.

STEPHENS, THE FENIAN HEAD-CENTRE.

A correspondent, dating from New York the 12 ult., writes that Stephens, the Fenian, finding further affectation of mystery a useless thing, has made a re-appearance, and is now begging hard to be taken again into the good graces of his dupes. A "secret" meeting of representatives of "circles" took place in Jersey City on the 10th. Six hundred "delegates" were present. Several genuine Irish rows took place. Finally, a note was received from Stephens, calling for an interview. A committee thereupon visited Stephens at the Sixteenth-street boarding-house, which has been his last hiding-place. At a late hour the committee returned and informed the "delegates" that Stephens thought that the "misapprehensions" might be removed. He was willing to take a subordinate position, and permit the "chief organising" business to devolve upon somebody else. After a long and violent debate, it was decided that the "delegates" had no power to accept Stephens's proposition, and the meeting broke up. Stephens, it seems, has dodged about from East Thirteenth-street to East Sixteenth-street for the past three weeks. He was recognised at last by a servant who had seen him previously at a

meeting in Jones's Wood, and, the discovery being communicated to a "circle," the whole affair came out. Gleeson, the new Head-Centre, declines to yield in favour of Stephens, and the last-named swindler has very few supporters left.

The Roberts Fenians have taken advantage of the Stephens fiasco by holding an "indignation" meeting, and adopting a string of resolutions unusually full of forcible adjectives. In the preamble Stephens is described as "a cheat, a scoundrel, and a rascal," who has "wound-up a career of deception and fraud in a most ignominious fizzle." The friends of Stephens are also denounced in similar terms. The resolutions affirm that the Roberts organisation is the only Simon Pure article, and call upon all Irishmen (who have money to contribute) to join the following of the Fenian "President."

The Fenians hereabout have apparently forgotten their fellow-conspirators in the Canadian gaols, and the announcement of the commutation of the sentence of the convicted Fenians—although imprisonment of twenty years is ordered—has excited no comment. Roberts still affirms that a Fenian "army" will invade Canada during the spring; but it is plain that demoralisation prevails among both factions of the "brotherhood." Nevertheless, the ex-

perience of the past shows that watching will not be thrown away upon Roberts. He is a bigot, and unquestionably he means to do his utmost to organise a new raid. The trials of the Fenians yet unconvicted, or undischarged, have been resumed in Toronto, and already one of the raiders (Timothy Reilly) has been convicted and sentenced to death.

THE BITERS BIT.—The Marquis of Waterford was in the habit of riding in the second-class carriages of the railroad in his vicinity. Such a course very highly disgusted the proprietors, and they resolved to cure the marquis, as they said, of his eccentricity. Accordingly, on one occasion, as he was sitting in a second-class carriage, a sweep, who had previously been in a third-class compartment, was invited out, and placed by the marquis's side. His lordship immediately got out, and purchased a first-class ticket, on delivering which to him the clerk laughed, as if the company had gained a victory. But Lord Waterford quietly returned to the train, gave the first-class ticket to the sweep, gravely escorted him to his place of honour, and then resumed his own place in the second class, from which the proprietors never again sought to remove him.



THE LION, JUST PLACED AT THE BASE OF THE NELSON COLUMN. (See page 535.)

Sporting Intelligence.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Joseph D. Mills, in his 59th year. The deceased was not only a good player, and particularly noted as an effective slow bowler, but for the last twelve years had attended the principal matches played in England as reporter for this and other journals. Being a volunteer rifleman he accompanied his corps to the Belgian Tir-National, but was taken seriously ill while at Brussels. He was removed home with difficulty, and gradually declined until Sunday, when he expired.

Gladiator has left Newmarket for the Middle Park Stud Farm.

By the death of Lord Exeter, Grand Cross for the Two Thousand, Star of India for the Derby, and, in short, all horses nominated by his lordship, are disqualified, and bets upon such horses become void.

The French turf has received a remarkable accession in his Excellency Kalil Bey (late Turkish Ambassador at the Russian Court), who has become a partner in Major Fridolin's stable, having bought Baron Niviere's share for £6,800. Kalil Bey is the brother of his Excellency Aali Pasha.

The fortunes of the great Hungarian family of Esterhazy appear to be on the decline. Prince Esterhazy's celebrated breeding establishment at Ozora, after having flourished for nearly two centuries, has been brought to the hammer. It had been very much reduced a few years ago, and family circumstances have now rendered its entire discontinuance necessary. Twenty-six horses, the last that remained, were sold a week ago, and fetched good prices. The celebrated jewels of the family, including the pearl embroidered suit, the hat with its diamond plume and band, the sword and scabbard studded with costly gems, are also, we have heard, in the possession of a well-known jeweller in the Strand.

The stewards of the Jockey Club, having investigated the case of Soiled Dove, have come to the conclusion that General A. Shirley and Mr. J. Arnold were accomplices in entering and running that mare as a two-years-old, whereas they were fully aware that she was a three-years-old. The stewards of the Jockey Club therefore warn General A. Shirley and Mr. J. Arnold, of Rugby, off Newmarket-beath. (Signed) DANGAN, THOS. F. GROVE, C. B. JARRETT.

The inclemency of the weather necessitated a postponement of the race between Murphy and Russell to February 4; and now that the river is again navigable, the men have taken to their boats. Murphy is located at Wilcox's and continues to go in good style. Russell is training at W. Sadler's Coat and Badge, Putney, and is taking his trips with Joe Sadler. He is a capital stayer, but he has not improved upon his short, snappy stroke. Each man having gained a victory, the issue of the race is looked forward to with much interest.

Nothing more has been done with reference to the match, between Chambers and Kelley, but Kelley, will pay a visit to Newcastle in the course of next week, and there is every probability of the preliminaries being speedily settled. As the matter at present stands, Kelley, we believe, is willing to concede the vexed question of date, and row on the 6th of May, provided the backers of Chambers will agree to the collateral bet of 300l.

The Marquis of Hastings has purchased Mr. H. V. Wilkinson's two horses, Lecturer and Black Prince, by Voltigeur; and nobody else, we are authorised to state, has any interest in them whatever.

Mr. Johnstone has lost the chestnut colt by Bonnyfield out of La Mancha he bought at York August meeting, through having choked itself with a piece of carrot.

ALTAR CLUB MEETING.—At the meeting held last week, at the Waterloo Hotel, it was decided to hold the Altar meeting in the month of March, the Earl of Sefton to name the time. It is more than probable, however, that the meeting will be suffered to fall through this spring.

GOOD SPORT.—Never were wild fowl more plentiful in Cornwall than last week, when there were killed, according to careful estimation, about 1,000 snipe, 400 woodcocks, 200 ducks, and a large quantity of plover, teal and widgeon.

The Newmarket Derby horses, viz., The Rake, D'Estournel, Dragon, Hermit, and Julius, are now in regular work.

WOODCOCK SHOOTING IN THE ISLE OF ARRAN.—The Duke of Hamilton and friends have had splendid sport in the Isle of Arran, where four guns killed 102½ brace of woodcocks in three days.

CROYDON CHURCH.—Several noblemen and gentlemen connected with the turf have contributed towards the rebuilding of Croydon Church, recently destroyed by fire. Among them are Lord Coventry, Mr. T. V. Morgan, and Mr. W. R. H. Powell, and the amounts have, through Mr. Henry M. Feist, been handed to the churchwardens. Lord Coventry was one of the stewards of the late, steeplechase meeting, and Mr. T. V. Morgan, it will be remembered won the Great Metropolitan Steeplechase with his clever little horse Globule.

TATTERSALL'S.—MONDAY.

For the first time for several weeks past, the Subscription-room to-day exhibited signs of activity, and the members present were not long in commencing operations. The Chester Cup was the first event brought on the carpet, with an offer of 25 to 1 on the field, which, however, was not responded to. Actæa and War (the latter with an acceptance) were then supported at 40 to 1 each, and this was followed by three bets of 1,000 to 20 each against Gomera, Lecturer, and John Davis. Minster (late Marco Spada) was also invested upon at the same price. There were inquiries about Miss Harriette, The Rescue, and Tormentor, but the prices did not suit; the last-named would, however, have been supported at 50 to 1. "John Day's lot" resolved itself into a favourite cry, but as 8 to one was asked for, and no more than 7 to 1 was offered, the opposing parties wasted their breath in vain. Although the other spring handicaps were occasionally mentioned, we did not see any business transacted in connection with either of them. For the Two Thousand Guineas Plaudit appeared in a slightly more favourable light, for, although he was not backed, layers limited their offers against him to 4 to 1. Hermit remained in seclusion at 6 to 1 offered. Julius, who has already been supported so heavily for this event, was backed for £300 by a leviathan book-maker, who in the first instance took 9 to 1 to £100, then succeeded in obtaining 2,000 to 200, and finally expressed his readiness to go on at the same price. Offers of 1,000 to 70 against Marksman met with no response, but a slight increase of the odds

would probably have found a taker. About the "dark" Master Butterfly 20 to 1 was accepted kindly in several quarters, and Hermit's stable companion, Knight of the Garter, was made the medium of two or three investments on the same terms. The remaining transaction on this event was the laying of 40 fifties against Van Amburgh. Speculation on the Derby was dull in the extreme, the only horse about whom any interest was manifested being D'Estournel, who was pretty freely supported at 9 to 1. The remaining transactions were nominal, consisting of offers only, and the closing quotations were as follows:—

CHESTER CUP.
25 to 1 on the field (off)
40 — 1 agst Marquis of Hastings's The Duke, 5 yrs. 9st 3lb (t).
40 — 1 — Mr. Bowes's War, 4 yrs, 7st 4 lb (t).
40 — 1 — Mr. S. Thellusson's Actæa, 4 yrs, 7st 4 lb (t).
40 — 1 — Mr. Pryor's Miss Harriette, 4 yrs. 7st 2lb (off).
40 — 1 — Mr. B. E. Dunbar's Tormentor, 4 yrs, 8st 1lb (off t 50 to 1).
1000 — 20 — Duke of Beaufort's Gomera, 5 yrs, 7st 2lb (t).
1000 — 20 — Mr. John Day as John Davis, 6 yrs, 8st 10lb (t).
1000 — 20 — Marquis of Hastings's Lecturer, 4 yrs, 8st 2lb (t).
1000 — 20 — Mr. C. Brewer's Minster, 4 yrs, 6st. 6lb (t).
1000 — 20 — Lord Coventry's The Rescue, 3 yrs, 5st 12lb (off).
1000 — 10 — Marquis of Hastings's Redcap, 6 yrs, 7st 6lb (off).
7 — 1 — John Day's lot (off, t 8 to 1).

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.
4 to 1 agst Major Elwon's Plaudit (off).
6 — 1 — Mr. Chaplin's Hermit (off).
9 — 1 — Duke of Newcastle's Julius (t to £100, and 10 to 1 to £200).
1000 — 70 — Mr. Merry's Marksman (off).
20 — 1 — Mr. R. Eastwood's Master Butterfly (t).
20 — 1 — Captain Macbell's Knight of the Garter (t).
40 — 1 — Mr. Fleming's Van Amburgh (t).

DERBY.
6 to 1 agst Mr. Pryor's The Rake (off).
9 — 1 — Mr. Savile's D'Estournel (t).
10 — 1 — Major Elwon's Plaudit (off).
25 — 1 — Lord Exeter's Grand Cross (off).
1000 — 35 — Mr. R. Eastwood's Master Butterfly (off).
1000 — 30 — Duke of Newcastle's Julius (off).
40 — 1 — Mr. Bowes's lot (w).

BETTING IN LONDON.—MONDAY AFTERNOON.

The clubs were thronged to-day, and wore a business-like aspect, promising well for the forthcoming season. Speculation on the spring handicaps was still in the ascendant, and several horses were backed for the Chester Cup and Lincoln Handicap. For the latter race Christmas Carol, although only moderately supported, was the favourite; Bathany was friendless at 20 to 1, and the other horses quoted were backed for but trifling amounts. For the Chester Cup Moulsey had decidedly the call of everything, and was supported with some spirit at 25 to 1. The Special was made the medium of a small investment at 100 to 3, and the same rate of odds was offered against Proserpine and Bracken, about each of whom 40 to 1 would have been taken. Weather Star was in force, and the price laid in the earlier part of the morning was towards the close unobtainable. Against the Cambridgeshire winner, Actæa, 40 to 1 was laid, and 1,000 to 20 each The Duke and Quick March. There were offers against many others, but at this point business hung fire. There appeared to be a strong desire to back John Day's lot, but the difference of half a point between layer and taker seemed to present an insurmountable obstacle to the accomplishment of a bet. An offer was also made to back T. Dawson's lot at 100 to 8, but 10 to 1 was the highest bid, and again nothing was done. For the Two Thousand Guineas the position of Plaudit was neither better nor worse than on Saturday, precisely the same offers to lay and take being quoted. Hermit's price was 6 to 1, and that of Julius 9 to 1, and each would have met with friends at an extra point. Marksman was in great request, 1,000 to 60 being accepted freely in three or four places. Sir Oliver and Master Butterfly were offered to be laid against at 20 to 1 each, and the remaining transactions on this race were 1,000 to 20 taken about The General, and 90 to 40 Julius for a "situation." The Derby betting showed no change. The Rake was still quiet at 6 to 1 offered, 9 to 1 was taken about D'Estournel, and the few remaining quotations were almost the same as those of Saturday. The prices at the close were as follows:—

LINCOLN HANDICAP.
20 to 1 agst Christmas Carol (t)
20 to 1 — Bathany (off)
25 to 1 — Lady Pam (t and off)
25 to 1 agst Bismarck (t)
25 to 1 — Vandervelde (t)
25 to 1 — Saccharometer (off)

CHESTER CUP.
1000 to 40 agst Moulsey (t)
100 to 3 — The Special (t)
1000 to 30 — Proserpine (off, t 40 to 1)
1000 to 30 — Bracken (off, t 40 to 1)
40 to 1 — Weather Star (t and w)
40 to 1 — Actæa (t)
40 to 1 — Miss Harriette (off)
1000 to 20 — The Duke (t)
1000 to 20 — Gomera (off, t 1000 to 15)
1000 to 20 agst Quick March (t)
1000 to 20 — Lecturer (off)
1000 to 20 — John Davis (off)
1000 to 20 — Life Guardman (off)
1000 to 15 — Monitress (off)
1000 to 15 — Planet (off)
1000 to 12 — Scipio (off)
1000 to 10 — Redcap (off)
1000 to 8 — Freemason (off)
15 to 2 — John Day's lot (off, t 8 to 1)
10 to 1 — T. Dawson's lot (off, t 100 to 8)

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.
9 to 2 agst Plaudit (off, t 5 to 1)
6 to 1 — Hermit (off, t 7 to 1)
9 to 1 — Julius (off, t 10 to 1)
1000 to 60 — Marksman (t f)
20 to 1 agst Master Butterfly (off)
20 to 1 — Sir Oliver (off)
1000 to 20 — The General (t and off)
90 to 40 — Julius (1, 2, 3, t)

DERBY.
6 to 1 agst The Rake (off)
9 to 1 — D'Estournel (t and off)
11 to 1 — Plaudit (off)
100 to 1 — Hermit (off, t 16 to 1)
25 to 1 agst Grand Cross (off)
1000 to 28 — Master Butterfly (off)
1000 to 10 — Allesbury (off)

SIR JAMES BROOKE, who was recently attacked by paralysis, is much better. He is considered, indeed, to be regaining health.

THE DISTRESS IN THE EAST.

[The following appalling account has been addressed to one of the evening papers by an eye witness.]

For two days I have traversed the Isle of Dogs, and have made it my business to inquire into the misery which prevails there. I am informed, without permitting myself to believe it, that 20,000 skilled workmen and labourers were employed a little while since in the various shipbuilding yards, while it is now doubtful whether 4,000 find the means of earning their daily bread there.

I saw the island under the guidance of Dr. Sargent, one of the good Samaritans of the St. Luke's Relief Fund, a gentleman who is intimately and painfully acquainted with the destitution and misery caused by the almost utter stagnation of labour. Before visiting the sufferers at their homes, the doctor suggested that I should go and look at one of the largest establishments on the island, and he forthwith took me to the Millwall Iron Works. There I was introduced to the resident manager, whom I found seated in a wilderness of an office, making an effort to alleviate the distress about him. Crowds of famishing labourers, with their wives and children, surrounded the entrance gates, anxiously expectant of the basin of soup—prepared possibly in some rusting old ship's caldron; and on the stairs and along the passages we passed, patient groups waiting for the small relief that might be afforded them. These works were formerly alive with the labour of from 4,000 to 7,000 men; now it is like the frame without the picture. We crunch over a waste of frozen snow, and find ourselves, as it were, in a forest of dead pines. There are the scaffolds that surround each empty dock, where there were life and noise enough at one time, while now we hear nothing but the sound of our own voices. In the huge sheds and shops miles of shaft have ceased to revolve; a perfect network of machinery is frozen into inactivity. This is a picture of but one yard out of many on the island, and those firms that are still at work are struggling along short-handed.

And now let me tell you what I saw in the homes of those who once peopled these yards. Of the feeble women, with woe-begone children in their arms, who move slowly through the streets, the bleak easterly wind rustling the few thin garments left to them—of the hard gaze of want which belongs to half the people we met—I shall attempt no description. It will be enough to note down the result of a series of visits I made to the poor creatures' houses in company with the hard-working Dr. Sargent, and in speaking of him I must not forget his equally kind and hard-working wife.

The first house we visited was No. 119, Steborndale-street. The man's name is Lockwood. He has had one week's work in five months; when employed, 24s. per week. His wife was down from starvation, and there were three young children. He now works in the stone-yard of Poplar union, receiving for his labour 3d. per day and 8 4lb. loaves, 3oz. of tea, 3lb. of sugar, and 6lb. of meat, distributed over the week. Out of this income he has to pay rent, and the pawnbroker and the general dealer are his bankers as long as he has anything to take to them. Six pounds of meat per week for five in a family can scarcely be looked upon as an excess.

Ann Thompson, 108, Steborndale-street, told us her husband had not done more than a month's work in two years. He was a "fitter" by trade, and used to earn 30s. per week. She had six in a family (here she burst into tears). Her sons go out at half-past five a.m. to look for work, without a crust for breakfast. She was very ill from starvation, the doctor told me. The allowance for the entire family from the union is 2s. 6d. per week.

Henry Tilley, of 17, Norfolk-terrace, Manchester-road, had been out of work four months. He used to earn 25s. per week, and now was "hammering his heart out" in the stone-yard at 3d. per day. He had six in his family, and the alms in kind from the union he found insufficient to keep up his strength and that of his children. His wife was sinking from a recent confinement, combined with low living, and the only bedding in the place had been lent by the parish. Everything he had formerly possessed was represented by a mound of pawnbrokers' tickets.

Alfred Myddleton, of No. 1, Davis-street, has six in his family. Has had no work for six months. His wife is confined; the bed lent by the parish. There was no fire in the grate. The mother pawned or sold everything, and he is now so weak that he has been removed from the inclemency of the stone-yard and set to picking oakum. His limbs are covered with boils from poorness of blood.

In the same house lives John Smith, an iron plater. He used to earn 24s., and now works in the stone-yard, receiving the same proportion of allowance as the others. There is no bedding, but some rags on the floor. His wife is very ill, and apparently sinking.

John Woodley, of 33, Marshfield-street, a labourer, has had no work for six months. The mother had gone out to beg soup from a local kitchen, the father was away breaking stones in the yard. Four little children were seated on the floor, for there was no furniture of any description in the room, and a baby ten weeks old was lying on a bundle of rags in the corner.

At 13, Thomas-street, the husband and wife are dying of consumption. There are five children to support, and the man has done no work since last March, while the woman, who was confined two weeks since, is almost at her last gasp.

John Taylor, of 1, Marsh-street, used to earn 36s. per week: he has been out of work three months. Cannot go to stone-yard from sickness, is so utterly broken down by the hard labour combined with insufficient nourishment. There is not a stick in the room. A dirty mattress lies in one corner, with an old sack for a covering, and this is about to be reclaimed by the lender, who is equally poor. There are six in the family all sleeping together, and the children cry piteously all night from the cold. The allowance from the parish is 5s. per week and five loaves.

William Moyce, of 13, Robert-street, boiler-smith, has only been employed one month in a year. Has been at work in the stone-yard, but is so thoroughly broken down that he can now do nothing. Has pawned or sold everything of any value.

But why should I increase this melancholy catalogue? In short, there is scarcely a house in any street that will not furnish similar details of starvation and misery. I visited scores of these sad abodes, and the instances I have quoted are taken, with little effort at selection, from my notes. The simple fact is, that this wretched little Isle of Dogs has thousands of creatures dependent upon public charity. The cry among the workmen is, "Why don't the Government give us some ships to employ the yards now at a standstill?" I know nothing about that matter, but I do know that every man of us with a pound to spare ought to spend it in the alleviation of the miseries rampant now in the far east of London.

MR. GEORGE POTTER has commenced an action against the Messrs. Blackwood, for an alleged libel which appeared in the last number of *Blackwood's Magazine*.

MUSEUMS OF TRADE PATTERNS.

The following memorial has been addressed to the Committee of Council on Education:—

"To the Committee of Council on Education, Science and Art Department, South Kensington.

"We, the undersigned merchants, manufacturers, and others, having had a proposition brought before us by Mr. Ablett for the illustration of collections of patterns produced in the current course of trade and manufacture, desire to express to your Lordships our opinion of the great utility of exhibiting series of patterns, of foreign and home production, for the information of producers of all classes, whether employers of labour or artisans, not only in the metropolis, but in the great centres of industry in the provinces. And, considering that it is the special function of the Department of Science and Art to promote the education of the people, we desire to express a hope that your Lordships will see the propriety, and even necessity, for providing that such illustrations shall be collected and exhibited in the manner best calculated to afford practical information to all who are interested in the art, progress, and manufactures of the United Kingdom, with the view of stimulating an honourable rivalry in those branches in which we are excelled by our foreign competitors, which the opportunity of inspecting better specimens would tend to improve, and thus supply the missing link that is needed to connect the School of Art and Design with practical manufacture, and complete the original plan of the late Prince Consort and the Exhibition Commissioners, 'to increase the means of industrial education, and extend the influence of Science and Art upon productive industry.'

"Smith, Payne and Smiths, 1, Lombard-street.
 "Stevenson, Salt and Sons, 20, Lombard-street.
 "Brown, Janson and Co., 32, Abchurch-lane.
 "John Browne and Co., 25, Abchurch-lane.
 "Kerr, Scott and Co., 8, Cannon-street.
 "Arthur Kay and Evans, Old Change.
 "The Fore-street Warehouse Co., pro R. Slater, Director.
 "Welch, Margetson and Co., 16 and 17, Cheapside.
 "Cook, Son and Co., St. Paul's Church-yard.
 "W. and T. Devas, Routledge and Co., 20, Cannon-street.
 "Munt, Brown and Co., 85, Wood-street.
 "Vyse, Sons and Co., 76, Wood-street.
 "W. and R. Morley, 36, Gutter-lane.
 "Sharp, Perrin and Co., 40, Old Change.
 "Ellington and Ridley, 89 and 90, Watling-street.
 "Moses, Son and Davis, 107 and 108, Cheapside.
 "Carliles, Pittman and Co., 11 to 14, Bow-lane.
 "Murdocks, Nephews, 36, Cannon-street.
 "Green, Humphrey and Co., 32, Cannon-street.
 "Bevington and Morris, 28, Cannon-street.
 "Beloe and Spreeckley, 13 and 15, Cannon-street.
 "House, Mead and Sons, 19, St. Paul's Church-yard.
 "Hitchcock, Williams and Co., 72, St. Paul's Church-yard.
 "Nicholson and Wilson, 15, St. Paul's Church-yard.
 "N. Corah and Sons, 16, Cannon-street.
 "White, Son and Co., 78, Watling-street.
 "Richard Evans and Co., 24, Watling-street.
 "Olney, Ainsden and Co., 54, Watling-street.
 "Young and Rance, 123, Wood-street.
 "Lee, Brothers, 27, Wood-street.
 "Slater, Buckingham and Co., 85, Wood-street.
 "S. and J. Graham, 5, Wood-street.
 "David Evans and Co., 1, Wood-street.
 "C. and J. Weldon, 130, Cheapside.
 "Jones, Randall and Way, Cheapside.
 "Walkden and Sons, Lawrence-lane.
 "Brown, Davis and Co., 11 and 12, Love-lane, Aldermanbury.
 "Millington and Hutton, 32, Budge-row.
 "M. and S. Hyam, Cannon-street.
 "Ridley, Son and Whitley, 46 and 47, Newgate-street.
 "David Walters and Sons, Newgate-street.
 "Murrell and Osborn, 9 and 10, Old Fish-street.
 "H. E. and M. Moses, 61, Cannon-street.
 "Welch and Sons, 140, Cheapside.
 "Ellis, Howell and Co., 3, St. Paul's Church-yard.
 "Bailly, Fox and Co., 5, Russia-row, Milk-street.
 "Hardy and Beck, 28, Lawrence-lane.
 "James Hart, President Chamber of Commerce, Coventry.
 "Foster, Porter and Co., 47, Wood-street.
 "Jansen and Bloor, 49, Watling-street."

INGRES AND COUSIN.

Last week we announced the deaths of two of France's most illustrious sons—Cousin, the philosopher and academician, and Ingres, the painter and senator. The following brief sketches are to supplement their obituaries:—

The career of Cousin is curious in the extreme. He was brought, when twelve years old, from the *pays* of the Rue St. Antoine to the famous College of Charlemagne, through the generosity of the family Vigier. He made strides upon strides in learning, and soon entered the Norman School, of which he became a professor two years after. He entered political life through the door of democracy, turned a Royalist under Martignac, became a minister under Louis Philippe, and ultra-reactionnaire after the Revolution of 1818. No one knows if he died an Orleanist or a Bonapartist; no one knows if he died a philosopher or a Catholic. In 1828 he professed Pantheism, which is the artist's philosophy, after having been the head of Eclecticism, which is the philosophy of the curious. Then he adopted, step by step, Spiritualism, which is the philosophy of the orator. The morbid taste of monographs and of the historical curiosities of the 17th century, was the last venture of his mind. He died a bachelor; but he had ardently loved all the beauties of that epoch, and more tenderly so Madame de Longueville, the sister of Condé, and the mistress of La Rochefoucauld, of whom he was madly jealous. During the stormy days of the first months of 1818, somebody said at a *soiree* of the Princess de Lieven, that Cousin was in love with Madame X. "Nonsense," said M. de Barante. "How could Cousin possibly love Madame X.? She is not dead." Withal, Cousin's literary talent was of the first order, it will survive his philosophies, and the place he occupied in the acreage of the forty immortals will be filled with much difficulty.

M. Ingres tried also to be the chief of a school, that of Raphael, but he was merely an imitator, though his hatred for Meubens knew no limits. He was excellent in portraits, but his classical compositions were icy. At the last Fine Arts Universal Exhibition at Paris, some one said to a friend, looking at Ingres' pictures, "Don't stop too long, you would freeze." Of course Ingres had his hobby-horse—he merely fancied he surpassed Paganini on the violin.

Foreign Intelligence.

The betrothal of King Louis II. of Bavaria to the Archduchess Sophia, sister of the Empress of Austria, is to take place on the 15th of May.

The merchants in the city of Mexico are suffering from the embargo between the French and the Imperialists. The Custom-house in that city refuses to deliver any goods which left Vera Cruz after the 12th, the day on which the French took possession.

The last detachment of French troops from the interior, under General Custaguy, was expected daily in the capital, when all the forces would commence their movement towards Vera Cruz. Marshal Bazaine expected to leave the capital about the 28th ult. All the abandoned cities were being occupied by the Liberals.

The Emperor has resolved to continue the struggle, and has reached the capital, taking up his abode at the Hacienda de la Leja.

The Imperial General Lesage had pronounced, at the head of his troops, against the empire, stating in his proclamation that he would observe armed neutrality in his district.

The New York House of Representatives has passed a bill prohibiting any person who took part in the rebellion from practising at law.

There is a tendency to panic in the American share market, and several failures are reported.

The Royal mail steam-ship *China*, Captain Hockley, from Boston on the 16th and Halifax on the 18th ultimo, arrived at Liverpool shortly after two o'clock on Sunday afternoon, bringing 77 passengers and 15,300 dols. in specie on freight.

The New York Supreme Court has decided that the test oath enacted by the Missouri Legislature, and that enacted by Congress to be taken by attorneys before practising in the Supreme Court, were unconstitutional.

In another case, two attorneys who took part in the rebellion, but were subsequently pardoned by the President, asked to be readmitted to practise in the court. The test oath prescribed by Congress prevented their readmission, and they applied to the court to rescind it.

Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, has sought to introduce a resolution into the House of Representatives declaring in effect that the Secretary of the Treasury should not have power to withdraw more than four millions per month, compound interest notes included. This failed to receive the necessary two-thirds to suspend the rules; but the fact that it received a majority vote is looked upon as evidence that whatever legislation is had upon this subject will be with a view of defining, and, perhaps, limiting, the secretary's power of contraction.

A girl of thirteen has been killed in a singular manner at Mont-de-Marsan. She was playing with a pair of scissors and let them fall. In stooping to pick them up she herself fell, and their points being upwards they pierced her heart and death was instantaneous.

The Civil Tribunal of the Seine has just tried an action for breach of promise brought by a woman of fifty-six against a cook of forty-five. Letters and portraits had been exchanged, the contract had been signed, and the bridegroom awaited the bride at the Mairie; but, instead of appearing in person, she sent a message to the effect that she had changed her mind, and would not have him. He strove to find some compensation by suing her for 2,500 francs, as damages; but the Court decided that marriage was free, and that by the Code each party had a right to break off the negotiation at any time before the legal completion. He was accordingly condemned to pay the costs.

Royal decrees were issued at Brussels on Monday prohibiting the import or export of cattle in the town of Hasselt, and the export or transportation of cattle or hides, horns, &c., on the Eastern Belgian frontier from Montzen to Athis.

General Manteuffel, who, on account of weak health, has repeatedly requested the King of Prussia to relieve him of the command of the 9th Army Corps, obtained his Majesty's permission on the 27th ult., to retire from that position. General Manteuffel will only retain his post as general aide de camp to the King, and, in order to enable him to recruit his health, is relieved from all other functions for a period of one year. Lieut. General Manstein is designated as his successor in the command of the 9th Army Corps, but has not yet been definitively appointed.

A musician belonging to one of the French regiments has just met with an extraordinary death at Vera Cruz. He was engaged to play at a ball, and being very thirsty he went out into the garden, and finding a water-bottle on the terrace, took it up and drank freely. Suddenly he raised cries of agony, and upon assistance arriving it was found that an enormous centipede had fixed its mandibles in his throat. The animal had taken up its abode in the neck of the bottle, and was washed into his mouth in the act of drinking. A surgeon who was called was obliged to cut it to pieces, but the poison from the bite caused death in a few hours.

INCORPORATION OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

This act of incorporation of the Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein with Prussia was effected in Kiel on the 24th ult. by Chief President Baron von Scheel-Plessen, in presence of the military and civil authorities, the chief officials, the University Senate, and a large assembly of notables.

The Royal Patent of King William read upon the occasion was almost identical in terms with that decreeing the annexation of Hesse-Homburg, promulgated at Homburg three days before. After being communicated to the assembly, it was succeeded by the following Royal proclamation to the Schleswig-Holsteiners:—

"By the Patent executed this day, I write you, inhabitants of the Duchies of Holstein and Schleswig, with my subjects, your neighbours, and German brothers. Released by the decision of war, by international treaties, and by the remodification of the common German Fatherland from ties you have long worn with reluctance, you enter now into union with a great State, the population of which is allied to you by community of race, of manners, and of interests. If many among you have not cast off other relations without hesitation, I honour in that fact the tried firmness of your race, and esteem it as a guarantee that you and your children will also faithfully serve me and my house. You will recognise the necessity of what has been done: for, unless the fruits of arduous contest and sanguinary victories are to be lost to Germany, the duty of self-preservation, as well as regard for the advancement of the national interests, demand that the Duchies should be firmly and permanently united to Prussia, and—as my late father, now resting in God, has declared—what Prussia gains is won by Germany. You will take this into serious consideration, and I therefore trust to your German honest feelings to promise me your fidelity as sincerely as I gather you to my people. By union with my States greater advantages

are open to your manufactures and your agriculture, your trade and your navigation. My care will efficiently meet your industry. Equal distribution of the State burdens, opportune and energetic administration, carefully weighed laws, just and punctual legislation—in short, all the guarantees that have made Prussia what she has proved herself, now under severe trial, will henceforth be benefits common to you all. Your youth available for war will faithfully join their brethren in my other States for the defence of the Fatherland, and the Prussian army and navy will joyfully welcome the brave and hardy seafaring people of Schleswig-Holstein, to whom a new page is henceforth open in the annals of German fame. The clergy will in future be the upholders of the paternal creed. I shall devote my special attention to your educational establishments, the ancient guardians of German art and science; and when the Prussian throne comes with increasing time to be ever more fully recognised and appreciated as the protector of the freedom and independence of the German Fatherland, your names will also be inscribed among those of its worthiest sons; you, too, will bless the hour that united you with a larger country.—May God grant it!

"Berlin, Jan. 12."

"WILLIAM."

Obituary.

Sarah Sophia Child, Countess Dowager of Jersey, widow of George Villiers, fifth Earl of Jersey, and principal partner in the old banking firm of Child and Co., Temple-bar, died on Saturday night, somewhat suddenly, at her town mansion, in Berkeley-square. She was granddaughter of the late Mr. Robert Child, of Osterly Park, Middlesex, who made her his heiress, in consequence of her mother's elopement with John, tenth Earl of Westmoreland. Lady Jersey was in her eighty-second year.

Sir John Villiers Shelley, Bart., late M.P. for Westminster, expired on Saturday at Maresfield Park, Sussex. He was eldest son of the sixth baronet, whom he succeeded in 1852, and was born in 1808. He was educated at the Charterhouse. In 1832 he married Miss Knight, only daughter of the Rev. S. J. Knight, rector of Welwyn, Herts, and vicar of Allhallows, Barking. The late baronet sat for Westminster from July, 1852, to July, 1865. He is succeeded by his brother, the Rev. Frederick Shelley, rector of Beer Parva, Devon.

The death is announced of the Countess of Devon. The sad event took place at Powderham Castle, on Sunday. Her ladyship was married to the Earl of Devon in 1836. She was sister of the late Earl Portesque, and is aunt of the present earl. The deceased lady leaves two children—Lord Courtenay and Lady Agnes Courtenay.

We regret to learn that Mr. William Howard Russell has lost his wife. She died on Thursday week at Henley-in-Arden, in Warwickshire. The deceased lady was second daughter of Mr. Peter Barrowes, of Kilbarrack, county Dublin, and was married to Mr. Russell in 1846. During the Crimean war she went out to the East to her husband, and was by accident present at the battle of Tchernaya, where she rendered assistance to the wounded Russians. During Mr. Russell's absence in India in 1855 she had a serious illness, from which she never completely recovered, and for a very considerable time she had been gradually sinking.

The post of Historiographer of Scotland has become vacant, by the death of Mr. George Brodie, who held the appointment many years.

We regret to announce the death of the Countess of Mayo, which occurred early on Saturday morning at Sydenham. Her ladyship was the only child of the Hon. John Jocelyn, uncle of the present peer. She was born in 1801, and married the 3rd of August, 1820, the Earl of Mayo, by whom she leaves surviving issue seven sons and one daughter, the eldest son being Lord Naas, M.P., Chief Secretary for Ireland. We are sorry to learn that the Earl of Mayo is in a precarious state of health.

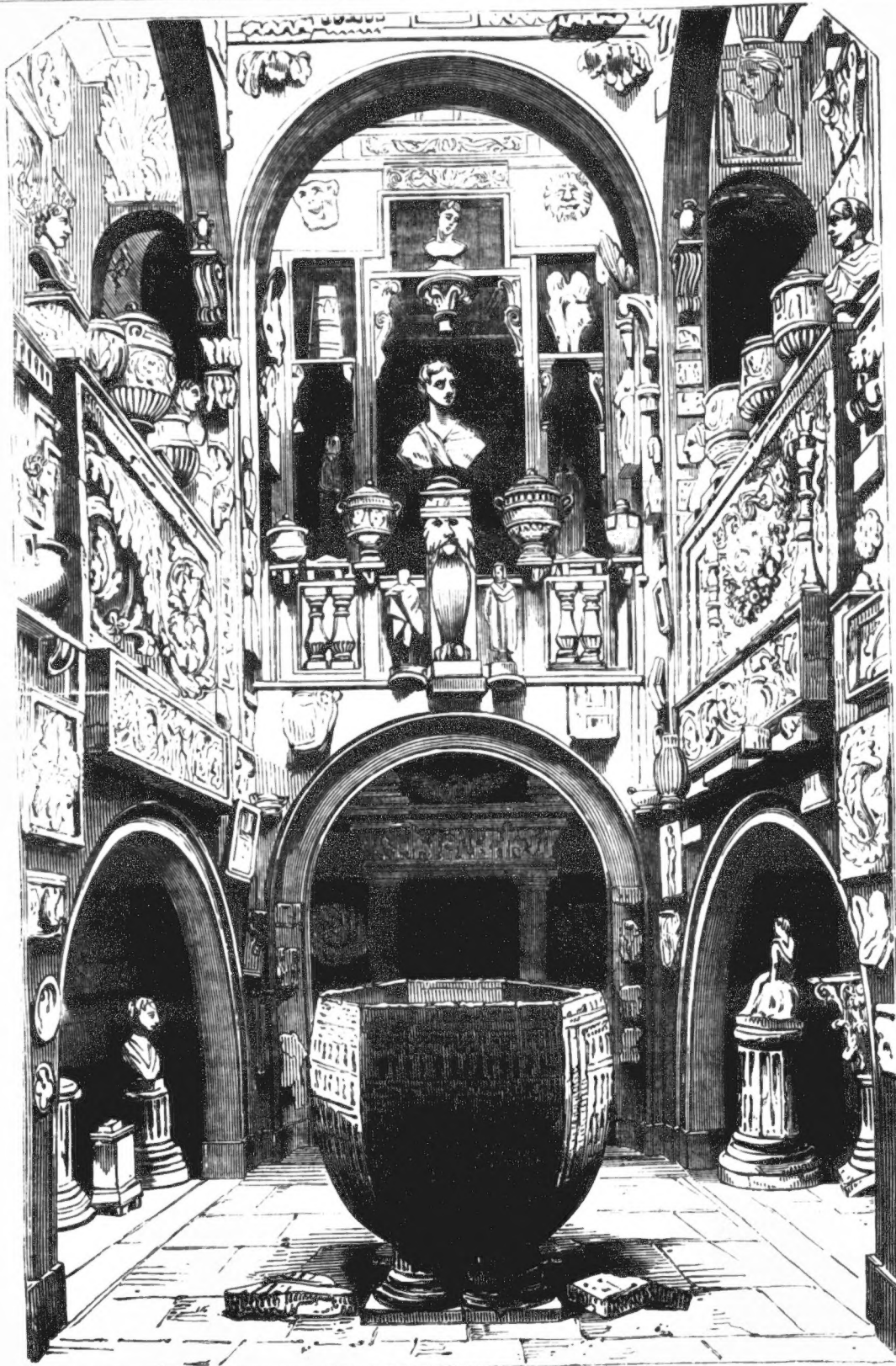
Lady Hervey Bathurst, wife of Sir Frederick Hervey Bathurst, of Clarendon Park, Wiltshire, died on Thursday evening. Her ladyship, who was the hon. baronet's second wife, was the youngest daughter of the late Sir Richard Brooke, Bart., of Norton Priory, Cheshire.

The death was announced on Tuesday morning of Mr. McCann, of Parliament-street, one of the most active surgeons of London, and a justice of the peace for the county of Middlesex. Mr. McCann was connected, professionally, with several of the benevolent and philanthropic societies, to which he rendered especial service.

Another fatal accident on the ice is reported from Jersey. Colonel Stepany, late of the Coldstream Guards, while skating slipped and missed his footing, and died shortly after from concussion of the brain, caused by the violence of the fall.

"CHANGE FOR A SOVEREIGN."—AN AUDACIOUS ROBBERY.—A few evenings ago a very impudent robbery was perpetrated at the shop of Mrs. Parnell, iron safe and lock maker, Strand, and which should induce caution in those who are asked to change money for strangers. A man having the appearance of a shop-porter entered and asked for change for a sovereign "to oblige Mr. Down" (a neighbouring tradesman). Mrs. Parnell, having tested the sovereign, went into the counting-house at the back of the shop, and when she had got her cash-box open she observed that the man had followed her, and was looking over her shoulder. Amongst the gold was a Napoleon, which the man took up and examined, making some remark, and as he returned it to the box Mrs. Parnell felt certain she saw him secrete some gold up his coat sleeve, but she was hardly certain enough about it to warrant her accusing the man on the spot. His whole conduct, however, was so suspicious that she deemed it policy to get him away from the box, fearing that he might knock her down and run off with it. She went to the street door with the man, who, instead of going across to the shop he said he had come from, disappeared she could not tell whither. Hastening back to her cash-box, she found that her gold was three sovereigns short, and these had been adroitly abstracted by the rascal when he was fumbling with the Napoleon. Mrs. Parnell at once went to the Bow-street police station, but only to learn that she had been the victim of a not uncommon trick, and that the probability was that the fellow had intended personal violence to her in order to secure the box and its contents, but that having made a successful nibble, he thought he could get off with less risk to himself.

A BILL will be introduced by the Recorder of London, next session (if he is not elevated to the Bench before that time), to regulate the practice of the police-courts with reference to witnesses for the defence. An important alteration will also be proposed relating to the admitting in evidence depositions made by sick persons.



SEFULCHRAL CHAMBER IN THE SOANE MUSEUM.

FISHING BOATS OFF HASTINGS.

We present our subscribers this week with an exquisitely finished engraving of the beautifully picturesque coast of Hastings and its vicinage.

In the foreground of the engraving we have a sprinkling of fishermen plying their "gentle craft" in a wholesale way that Isaac Walton would certainly not hold with. It is gratifying to our instinct for gain to see a huge haul in a net, but how much more pleasurable is it to ponder to our natural inclinings by spiking a scaly victim with an artfully disguised hook, and gloat over him writhing in the agonies of death?

The background of our picture gives a distant view of the town of Hastings, to whose vacation delights our thoughts are again recalled by the mild spring weather which has succeeded so sharply to the killing winter. We confess that ours is a most tantalising picture, and raises longings in our breast, that only time—"creeping like snail" in this cheerless season—can gratify. We envy those fishers—shiveringly oblivious of the fact that they are doubtless as blue-nosed as ourselves at the chilly epoch—and would give much for a sail in the cool of the evening, after one of those lazy, sweltering days, when it is almost too hot to think. Then one can enjoy a gentle breeze—a summer breeze—a vastly different article to the sweeping east and nor'-easters which have of late been finding their way through our two overcoats, undercoats, waistcoats, two flannel shirts, and chest protectors.

But, there, it is useless grumbling; we can only look upon our "Fishing boats off Hastings," and long—for six months.

A METEOR of extraordinary size has been seen at Uzest, a few evenings ago. The *Gleaner* of Bordeaux states that at about seven in the evening three persons on the road between Prechac and Villanfranc perceived this enormous meteor passing over them, and were terrified at its fiery aspect. In its transit it dropped numerous sparks, traces of which were found in holes being burnt in the umbrellas which those persons carried.—This sounds rather Transatlantic!

SEFULCHRAL CHAMBER IN THE SOANE MUSEUM.

This unique and curious collection, which the late Sir John Soane very generously bequeathed for public inspection, is in the house in Lincoln's Inn Fields; but we believe it is very far from being generally known that it is open, free of all expense, on Thursdays and Fridays, during April, May, and June in each year, for general visitors; and on Tuesdays, from the first day of February to the last day of August, for the accommodation of foreigners and artists. Our illustration displays the Sepulchral Chamber, in the centre of which, raised a few inches above the level of the pavement, is the splendid ancient Egyptian sarcophagus, discovered by Belzoni in 1816.

STARVED TO DEATH.—An inquest has been held at the Market House, Poplar, respecting the death of Richard Farrell, a rigger, aged 46 years. The evidence showed that the deceased had been out of work for a long time, and was very poor. About nine o'clock on Tuesday morning week a policeman found him lying in an outhouse in a tile yard, near the New Bridge, Barking-road, Poplar. He said he was very cold, and had crept into the shed at midnight. He was lying on the stone pavement, and evidently suffering greatly from cold. It was evident too that he had been vomiting, and his clothes were in a most filthy condition. A person who resided near, and who heard that the man was dying, gave him some brandy and a little tea, and then the policeman took him to the workhouse in a cab. There his clothes were taken from him and burned on the instant. He was put in a warm bath, and had stimulants given to him. He had, however, been starved too long, he only lived until the following morning. The jury returned the following verdict: "That the deceased man was found in an outhouse, and that he died in the parish infirmary from disease of the lungs; and the said jurors do further say that his death was accelerated by exposure to the cold and want of food."

DISASTROUS RESULTS OF THE THAW IN THE NORTH.

THE thaw, which in London has only made our streets a little muddier than usual, has had much more serious consequences in the country. The North Riding of Yorkshire, for instance, has been suffering from one of the heaviest floods on record. The frost and snow-storms have not effected half so much damage as the thaw. Here and there a mile or two of railway might be blocked by snow-drifts, and in the hilly districts some of the roads were obstructed. No sooner did the weather break, however, than all the streams were flooded; and the whole bulk of the snow, which the hard frost had prevented from escaping through the natural drainage of the land, seemed to come down with a rush in the watercourses that sprang from upland and moor. In the upper valleys there are "river-lakes," like Windermere itself. The river Rye has overflowed, and all the farms and villages on its banks are under water. In one part it is now nearly two miles wide, and yet running so fiercely that no one attempts to cross it on horseback. The district round Malton is not unfamiliar with inundations; but even the poles five feet high, which are put up to mark the road in flood-time, are no longer to be seen. A portion of the York and Scarborough Railway "has disappeared;" the flour mills are ruined; the old bridges scarcely able to withstand the furious current that goes boiling through their arches; property of all sorts, from cattle to crockery, has been swept away; and, already, with the usual British instinct of making the best of a bad thing, the inhabitants—those, we imagine, who are not "ruined"—have taken, with much gusto, to boating and shooting over the flooded fields. It is to be hoped that by this time the inundations are subsiding; but on Saturday afternoon it seemed, by the darker colour of the stream, that the moor-water was only just beginning to come down. After all, a city life has its advantages. We Cockneys may be compelled to wear gaiters, but we are not obliged to make our escape from our first-floor windows in a boat. The pleasure of paddling one's own canoe up and down Regent-street would scarcely compensate for the total destruction of furniture and household goods.

LAST week an Arabian, or single-hump camel, and a Bactrian, or double-hump camel, both belonging to Mrs. Wombwell's Royal No. 1 Menagerie, gave birth to calves. The menagerie had been exhibited in Cheltenham for three days, and left on Friday morning for Northleach, en route for Oxford. When the collection had proceeded the length of Shipton, a small village about six miles from Cheltenham, the Arabian camel began to show signs of distress, when she was immediately taken to a stable attached to the Frogmore Inn, where in the course of ten minutes she gave birth to a very fine single-hump male calf. Scarcely was it born when one of the keepers came running down the road with the Bactrian camel, which had also begun to show signs of distress, and in a quarter of an hour's time she also gave birth to a double-hump female calf. The director of the menagerie, Mr. A. Fairgrieve, immediately placed the calves in a waggon, and returned to Cheltenham, with the two mothers, and had them placed in separate stables at the Trafalgar Hotel, where they were to remain till Thursday evening, and then proceed to Oxford to join the collection there. The Bactrian camel is particularly fond of its baby, and is nursing it well, covering it up with its long mane when it lies down. The Arabian camel is rather spiteful, and Mr. Fairgrieve was compelled to take the calf from her, as she threatened to kill it. He immediately procured one of Maw's feeding bottles, and is bringing the calf up admirably, with milk from the mother put into Maw's feeding bottle, which has proved a useful invention in this special instance. The father of both the camels is a very large doubled-humped Bactrian camel, and is considered the largest and handsomest in Britain. We understand that there have been only four camel calves born in Britain, and what makes this the more curious is the two births taking place within half an hour of each other. Mr. Fairgrieve has named the male calf "Robert Burns," being born on the great Scottish bard's birthday. We have little doubt but that the camel mammas and babies will form a great attraction to the menagerie.

THE CITY LUMBER TROOP.—Mr. Charles Knight relates the following in his "Passages of a working Life":—"I had never taken any part in civic proceedings; but, having met Sir John Key, the Lord Mayor, at a public dinner, he asked me, when the company was separating, to go with him where I might witness a curious scene. At a tavern of no very elevated character, near the King's Printing-office, we were ushered upstairs. The door of a large room was thrown open; the waiter shouted "The Lord Mayor!" there was a violent rapping of tables, but nothing could be seen, for a dense cloud of tobacco smoke filled the whole space. Sir John Key was led to a place of dignity, and I was seated at a crowded table. As the smoke cleared away, I saw a well-known tailor of Fleet-street elevated on a chair of state, with a silver chain round his neck. On his right hand sat Mr. Grote, the eminent banker, and now more eminent historian. Sir John Key was placed on the chairman's left hand. They were the Liberal candidates for the City. I was soon made acquainted with the nature of the honourable society into which I was thrown, for, with all due formalities, I was made a member of the Lumber Troop, in whose records could be traced, I was assured, their origin at the time of the Spanish Armada, as an integral portion of the Train Bands. This distinguished corps had not to go forth as of old against the fierce Rupert in his march upon London; their duty was to preserve such an organisation as would give them a voice potential in the representation of the City.

THE news brought by the Cape mails is not of much interest. A fearful case of murder had been perpetrated on board the ship *Raby Castle*. The murderer, Carl Anderssen, a young Swede of weak mind, and thought to be harmless, who entertained some superstitious views about one of the crew being a Russian Finn and would cause the loss of the ship, watched an opportunity, when with an axe he attacked one of the crew named Marncheni, a West Indian creole, as he was sleeping in his bunk, and with five blows nearly separated his head from his body. Notwithstanding the frightful injuries, Marncheni was sensible, and conversed with his shipmates several minutes afterwards, but died within half an hour. The crew refused to proceed with the murderer on board, and the captain was thus compelled to put in at the Cape, where Anderssen was formally examined, but sent to England for trial in charge of four special constables on board the *Raby Castle*, which may be expected to arrive in the middle of February.

THE other evening a shocking scene occurred at a ball at Thurston, near Leicester, given by a gentleman of that village to a party of friends. The ball had not long begun when the dress of one of the ladies caught fire through being brought into too close contact with the fire-grate. Becoming terrified by her situation, she rushed about the room, and ignited the dresses of three other ladies, which, being of such light material, were speedily in a blaze. The flames were extinguished as quickly as possible, but not before the ladies had been considerably burnt—two of them seriously so.

LEGISLATION AGAINST INFANTICIDE.

A large and influential deputation of the medical profession had an interview with Mr. Walpole, Secretary of State for the Home Department on the 28th ult., to urge upon the Government the necessity of legislation against infanticide, which is increasing in this country. The deputation, which represented the Harveian Society, was composed as follows:—Dr. Tyler Smith (chairman of the committee), Dr. J. E. Pollock (president of the society), Dr. Charles Drysdale and Mr. J. Brandon Curgenvin (hon. secs.), Mr. Ernest Hart, Mr. B. Baker, Mr. W. Sedgwick, Dr. H. C. Stewart, Dr. W. Camps, Dr. D. Menzies, Dr. Monins Ballard (vice-president of the society), Mr. Edwin Lowe, Dr. Maudsley, Mr. W. Acton, Dr. Cleveland, Dr. Westmacott, Mr. J. B. Walker, Dr. R. Greenalgh, Mr. J. Evans, Mr. T. Carr Jenkins, Dr. Graily Hewitt, Mr. H. Powis, Dr. E. H. Vinen, Dr. J. C. Langman, Dr. John H. Davis, and Mr. Tilbury Fox.

Dr. Tyler Smith, in introducing the subject to the Home Secretary, said the deputation was from the Harveian Society, which sought to obtain a diminution of infantile mortality. A committee had been formed, and had resolved upon a series of recommendations for the consideration of the Government. The committee were of opinion that the following were the main causes of illegitimacy, and indirectly of infanticide: 1. The overcrowding of the dwellings of the labouring classes in urban and rural districts. 2. The custom prevailing in the north and west of England and in Scotland of public hiring of servants. 3. The gang system of agriculture. 4. The promiscuous lodging of the sexes during hop-picking, harvests, cider making, &c.

child should be raised from 2s. 6d. to 5s. a week. They had also devised a system for the registration of nurses. At the present time, nurses taking illegitimate children were so incompetent that it was rare for such children to reach maturity. The mortality of illegitimate children reached 70 to 75 per cent. The committee believed this might be diminished by providing penalties against any taking illegitimate children to nurse who are not duly registered—in short, to keep up an efficient registration and medical supervision of all wet-nurses and dry-nurses. The society had recommended the prohibiting of children being congregated together, because it was seen that in that case they never thrive, and they would be better taken care of if distributed among a number of nurses.

Mr. Walpole: Legitimate as well as illegitimate?

Dr. Smith: Yes.

Mr. Walpole: What do you attribute that to?

Dr. Smith replied: To various causes; to more care being taken of them, better ventilation; and then diseases of children were so many of them contagious.

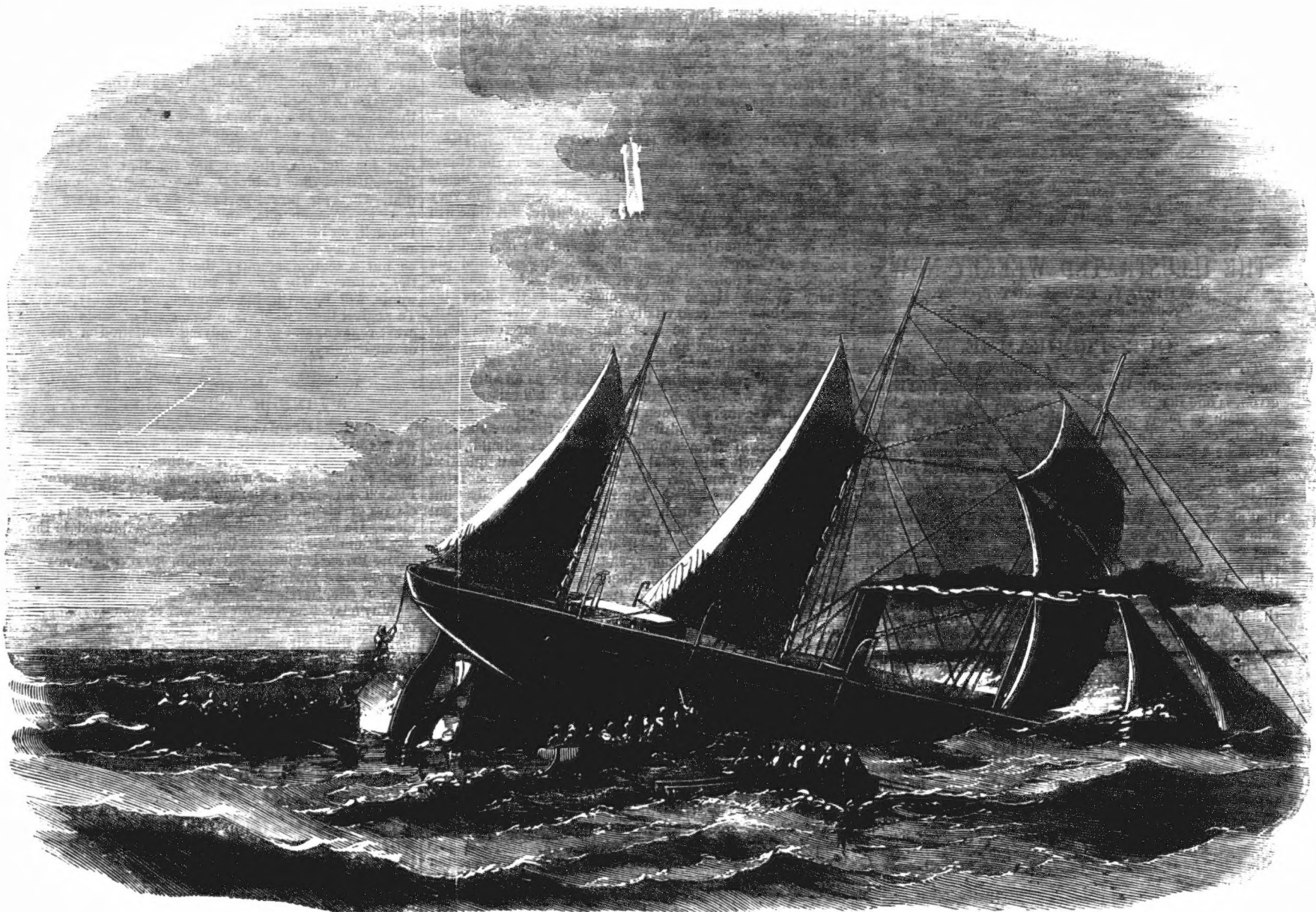
Mr. Walpole: Do you recommend the alteration of the law in both cases?

Dr. Smith said: No. The business of the committee was more with the illegitimate than the legitimate. Besides, the mortality among legitimate children was not so large as among the illegitimate. The committee also laid stress upon giving the mother power to remain with her child in the workhouse during the four months after confinement; for it was found that nothing would compensate for maternal care during the first few months of infancy. They wished to give her power after the four months to leave the

bill based on the recommendation of the Capital Punishment Commissioners would be introduced in the forthcoming session of Parliament. He could promise the deputation no more legislation beyond that, without giving the subject much more consideration; but he should be obliged by any statistics with which the committee would furnish him.

Dr. Smith assured the right hon. gentleman that the committee would forward him ample statistics on the subject; and, having thanked Mr. Walpole for his attention, the deputation withdrew.

ILLEGALITY OF TRADES UNIONS.—A numerously-attended meeting of trades society delegates was held last week at the Sussex Hotel, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, in relation to the late Trades Reform Demonstration, and at the conclusion of the regular business Mr. Potter, the chairman, brought before the delegates the subject of the recent decision given in the Court of Queen's Bench, by which trades unions were deprived of the power of recovering by law any sums of money that might be embezzled from their funds by any officer or member of the society. After some discussion a delegate from the plasterers moved, and a delegate from the carpenters seconded, the following resolution:—"That the Working Men's Association be and is hereby empowered by this meeting to convene a meeting of delegates from the trades societies of the metropolis, for the purpose of taking into consideration the position in which trades unions are placed by the recent decision in the Court of Queen's Bench, in the case of the Boiler Makers' Society, and to determine the course to be adopted thereon." The resolution was unanimously adopted.



WRECK OFF THE ISLE OF WIGHT. (See page 535.)

Mr. Drysdale having read the recommendations referred to to the number of 20,

Dr. Tyler Smith proceeded to explain them seriatim. They proposed that the registration of all births should be compulsory, believing it would greatly lessen the facilities of infanticide if a registration of stillbirths could be demanded. Then they considered the temptation to infanticide would be diminished by fairly dividing the burden of maintaining the child between the father and the mother; for at present, in the case of an illegitimate child, the great burden fell upon the mother, and the person really sacrificed was the child. Next they proposed that the crime of infanticide should no longer be punishable by death, but that the recommendation of the that the offence be considered as murder in the second degree. This mitigation of capital punishment would seem to make the law less severe; but the wish of the society was really to make it more severe; and with the difficulties which juries now experience in convicting a mother on this charge, they believed that if the punishment was made less, it would reach the mother much more certainly and frequently. Further, they proposed to give the child the protection of the Poor-law. Instead of leaving it the mother to obtain assistance at the hands of the law from the father, they Royal commission on capital punishment should be adopted, and wished to give the Poor-law the onus of reaching the father, who often now escapes, from the want of means on the part of the mother to support her case. The committee considered the maximum sum which may be assessed on the father of an illegitimate

child in the workhouse, the guardians having the power to recover from the mother a portion only of the sum required for its maintenance. They, moreover, suggested that for the rearing of children left in charge of the guardians a system should be adopted, similar to that pursued by the Foundling Hospital, and to that followed under the old Poor-law system. The committee hoped, Dr. Smith said, that some of their conclusions would be expressed in legislation. It was their belief that public morality would be thus improved, that crime would be prevented and punished, and that a saving of infant life would take place, especially of illegitimate infant life.

Dr. Pollock observed that the committee proposed that there should be such a system of surveillance over mothers of illegitimate children as to diminish their temptation to infanticide.

Mr. Brandon Curgenvin remarked that the mortality of legitimate children averaged from 24 to 30 per cent., as against 70 to 75 per cent. illegitimate. There were certain districts—such as Paddington—where the mortality was even greater. With regard to the suggestion of the committee as to the establishment of foundling hospitals for the free and indiscriminate admission of infants being attended by bad results, he stated that statistics showed that out of 14,000 admitted to six foundling hospitals, 1,000 died. That was owing to the children being taken away so soon as three or four weeks from the mother.

The Home Secretary, having listened to all the remarks the deputation had to offer, said the only thing he need say with regard to any legislation on the subject brought before him, was that a

FAMINE PRICES AND THE FISH MARKETS.—Considering the cheapness and facility with which all kinds of fish now find their way to London, and the prices which they fetch in bulk at Billingsgate, it must be admitted that the public, in purchasing that important article of food retail, does not reap all the advantages to which it is entitled. The price of a sole, a whiting, a lobster, or a turbot bought off a fishmonger's slab in the West-end of London is not appreciably less than it was thirty years ago; in Billingsgate its price is not half what it was thirty years ago. A correspondent of the *Field* thus describes the cumbrous and costly manner in which fish used to be conveyed from the Sussex coast to London as late as 1837:—"The fish-cart was like an ordinary stage-coach, save that it was more strongly built, and fitted to carry fish instead of men outside. On the occasion in question there were four passengers inside, and about five tons of soles outside. We started with six horses, and the cost for turnpikes alone between Hastings and London was eight shillings per horse. We changed horses six times, and in spite of a delay caused by the fracture of a wheel we reached Thames-street within ten hours of our departure from Hastings with our fish in good condition for the market. Five tons of soles are now brought up to Billingsgate Market from Hastings in three hours at a cost of less than what the old fish-cart must have paid each trip for its turnpikes alone. The London public has had its Smithfield Committee of Inquiry: why should it not now have its Billingsgate Committee of Inquiry?"

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

On February 13th will be published an
EXTRA VALENTINE NUMBER

of BOW BELLS, to be called

AUNT BETSY,

Consisting of a series of original stories, written and illustrated expressly for this Magazine by the most eminent authors and artists of the day, and related by Mrs. Betsy Baker and her party on St. Valentine's Day.

The usual weekly number of

BOW BELLS,

No. 133, to be published simultaneously with the above, will contain the commencement of a New Tale of society of the present day, by the author of "Hawthorne," to be called

MARY'S VICTORY,

with illustrations from the pencil of L. Huard, together with a vast amount of entertaining and instructive reading to please all tastes, old and young, grave and gay.

Price of the Valentine Number, One Penny; price of the usual Number, One Penny.

*. The former may be had separately. Country booksellers should send extra orders without delay, to ensure a supply.

London: J. DICKS, 813, Strand.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

ANNIVERSARIES.				H. W. L. B.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1 D.V.					
3 S	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	...	...	1 19	1 40
4 M.	Fair Thames, 1814	...	...	2 0	2 18
5 T.	Agatha	...	...	2 37	2 55
6 W.	Priestly died, 1804	...	...	3 18	3 29
7 Th.	Russian Treaty, 1859	...	...	3 47	4 2
8 F.	Half Quarter	...	...	4 19	4 38
9 S.		...	...	4 56	5 14

Moon's changes.....New Moon, 4th day, 6h. 16m. p.m.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT.—All letters to be addressed to the EDITOR, Drury House, Drury-court, St. Mary-le-Strand, London.

*. Correspondents finding their questions unanswered will understand that we are unable to do so, either from their peculiarity, or that our correspondents with little trouble could readily obtain the information themselves.

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1867.

REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

OUR PROGRAMME.

To make promises is a very different thing than to fulfil an agreement. We opine that every pledge that is here given, is one that is made for a purpose, the purpose being to obtain as many permanent supporters as is possible within reason. To offer and to fail in the performance would be to make friends, and then afterwards convert them into enemies. We believe, whether it be in journalism, or in any other state, there are no compacts like those which are kept, and no overtures equal to those that are verified. We have at the present a very considerable support, but we propose to obtain a far wider one, and we feel that to obtain this we must enter upon reciprocal relationship with the great public, and keep faith with it in the agreement we are about to enter upon. No success and no stability can be lasting, unless existing in the future deeds which should represent our present words. With these sentiments the new managers beg to address themselves to the people of the United Kingdom.

The ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS has now gone into new hands, and it is hoped that those who have its interests in keeping will be enabled to impart a fresh excellence to its life.

As we informed our readers in last week's number, a new Novel will be commenced on the 9th instant. It is written in a most masterly manner, and portrays a consummate knowledge in the art of construction. We have reason to believe that no work that has ever appeared under the name of any author or authoress, however famous, can surpass it for the simplicity and beauty of its language, coupled with a profoundly interesting narrative, full of incidents of our own day, respecting those with whom we all move.

The name of the production is

"DEAD ACRE;

A CHAIN OF EVIDENCE."

With the intention of making this journal as amusing and instructive as is possible, we have entered into arrangements with several gentlemen of distinguished merit, and it is suggested that from week to week we should devote a portion of our columns to an Article to be called

"THE OTHER SIDE;

PROMINENT PERSONS CRITICALLY CONSIDERED."

There are many men who hold a certain position in the public estimation who, in our opinion, should receive a new justice. It is our wish to render it to them.

Under the designation of

"OUR OPERA GLASS,"

we shall review Theatrical and Musical performances, and it is our wish to be candid rather than servile, and to care for Art more than Artists.

"OUR LIBRARY CHAIR,"

will be the designation of a criticism especially devoted to the merits of New Works.

"SOCIETY;

ITS FACTS AND ITS RUMOURS,"

will afford an especial feature; and while fashion, in all its brilliant colours, will be depicted, the *On Dit* will not be neglected.

A gentleman intimately connected with Parliamentary life will write an article called

"THE TALKING HOUSE."

The "Parliamentary Pundit," by whom the comments will be made, will tell many good things about the members of the House of Commons, and do something to show us how much recreation, as well as legislation, is to be obtained out of the third estate.

"MORNINGS WITH THE MAGISTRATES"

will be the heading of certain law reports, which will be compiled particularly for this journal.

"LONDON GOSSIP"

AND

"THEATRICAL TATTLE"

will afford for every one, caring for London or the Drama, great pleasure. They will be full of facts; and if fiction is by accident introduced, it is hoped that, like Gossip or Tattle, it will be considered very harmless.

"OUR VERY FUNNY MAN,"

it is trusted, will not divert our subscribers too much. We think it unlikely, because we believe he intends to borrow something very often from *Punch*.

We have many new plans in contemplation—they are for the future, and it is better that they should be unexplained, as their coming into existence may occasion pleasurable surprises, which, to avert, would take from our readers many of their hopes.

Respecting our Illustrations they will speak for themselves. It is essential that our newspaper should be an organ representing facts in words and drawings. All we can say is that men of ability will record the former, and those who have gained a place in the world of art have pencils retained to portray the latter.

MR. DISRAELI AND HIS REFORM SPEECHES.

WHEN Mr. Disraeli commenced his career in the House of Commons, and that assembly showed some impatience at his speech, that gentleman, it is said, observed in very shrill tones to the members of the legislature, "A time will come when you shall hear me." That time has come.—The once-ridiculed member has become the trusted exponent of Conservatives, and the chief spokesman of the greatest actual political party of the day. He is now the leader of the House of Commons, and therefore his speeches, on a matter so vitally important as Reform, must, just now especially, be read with great interest. It is curious to reflect that he, who once appeared to have so little hope of eminence, should now not only be distinguished as a great orator, but should be, as an authority, the greatest we have on Reform. The Radicals and the Whigs have generally been considered the prime-movers in Reform measures, and it is, therefore, the more singular that no person from amongst themselves should have given any such substantial contributions to that question as have come from Mr. Disraeli. Mr. Gladstone is an acknowledged financier; Lord Russell certainly has written and spoken much upon electoral legislation; but to be an authority is to be consistent, and one's earliest and latest utterances to be based upon the same principle. Mr. Bright is a great speaker, and upon Reform has exemplified a rare and fervid eloquence, unsurpassed in the annals of public debate. Yet the honourable member for Birmingham has not come to be an authority. No public man who was ever so passionate, or ever so vehement, has been accepted in that position. Every movement requires its leaders, and Mr. Bright has roused men from an inert state to one of enthusiasm and new life; nevertheless, he is not an authority. Aaron, though he addressed the Israelites in felicitous language, took no position by the side of Moses as a lawgiver. For sustained power of expression, and lofty metaphor, no one in the House of Commons adorned the measures of the late Government with so much that was rare and graceful; but with all this it was asked on what principles had the late Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Gladstone) built his arguments.

There is a degree of significance in the fact of the publication of the Reform speeches of Mr. Disraeli at this time. Surely it is not probable that the present Chancellor of the Exchequer intends to tantalize the public by proving that he can do so much in elaborating a great measure, and, at the same time, now he is again second in command, simply refusing to do that which it was thought he was so able to perform. The publishing of his complete collection of speeches only proves that, by conviction and knowledge, Mr. Disraeli is versed in the subtleties of the discussion; but we opine it is suggestive that he proposes not to remain inert when Parliament commences. Mr. Disraeli is a son of the people—the child of Mr. Isaac Disraeli, the author of the "Curiosities of Literature," he commenced his political life, we have reason to believe, as a Radical. For reasons of his own he changed his views, and made a considerable name for himself as a master of sarcasm, by attacking the late Sir Robert Peel for changing his. At that time the honourable Mr. Bentinck was the leader of the country party, and upon his death it was discovered that no one existed so ingenious, versatile, and bold as Mr. Disraeli. Though not of aristocratic birth, he had been the associate of the exclusive circles, and while bringing with him recollections of the people, derived from his parentage, he yet, as proved by his novels, is shown to possess certain instincts for the well-born and highly-cultured. Every speech that he has delivered, and many of which are now printed, prove that his association is with the upper classes, and that the advocacy for the industrial orders is evolved out of his own reasoning, and of that logic which tells him that, after all, the best policy for one class is the generous recognition of the class by which the country has been made, and by which it must endure. Though Mr. Disraeli has evinced greater consistency in his conclusions

upon Reform than any other statesman; nevertheless, acute, delicate, and even broad as his ideas have been, the country has failed to see in him those greater popular instincts so required at this time. Mr. Gladstone, with all his vagaries, has always shown himself to be more of an Englishman than his dexterous opponent. The very perfection and symmetry of Mr. Disraeli's speeches are in themselves reasons why he is not popular with every one. If undaunted courage and unwavering persistency in the face of defeat should give him a position in the minds of Englishmen, of a surety he should be the most popular man of the age; nevertheless he is not so. We opine he has given his mind too much to books, and too little to men; and, besides this, he is one who, in early years, listened to the echoes that reverberated in great halls and in Parliament; he has been the coadjutor of those who have had one great creed—the support of their order. In France, or on the Continent, Mr. Disraeli would have obtained a far higher altitude than ever will be his here. Incisive, keen, and intellectual, in those States where mind, rather than heart, is studied, he would have become a great leader. In England in measure he fails to become a leader, but is an authority. Lord Palmerston's hold upon the community perhaps, was occasioned by his reasoning so little, but appearing to feel so much. Mr. Disraeli reasons so much and appears to feel so little.

We are now entering upon another phase of our political life, and it would be as well that the present foremost man in the Government should determine upon a course of action replete with honour to himself and advancement to the State. If Conservatism, since the passing of the Reform Act of 1832, ever had an opportunity to gain new converts and fresh adherents to its ranks, now is its time. The Derby-Disraeli Government, only a few years ago, brought in a Reform Bill, and showed that it was at least able to deal with a matter pregnant with vast and mighty interests. Only last year many Conservatives gave as their opinion that the country was ripe for Reform, though not for that suggested by a Russell-Gladstone Cabinet. The ministry should realize that, whatever power parties may possess, there is, in the end, a stronger one, and that the people. Let Mr. Disraeli, on his own principles, outflank his adversaries, and, if they defeat him, we are convinced his defeat will be but a temporary one; the final victory will be with the country. He who is with England and its present wants, will be with his own honour, dignity, and fame. To neglect those wants is to lose sight of an inheritance of great renown, and of an undying reputation in the history of our country.

A DINNER FOR A HALFPENNY.

PARIS is the city of cheap dinners; but we must confess that we are not a little startled to find a long list of marvels in the low-priced restaurant line culminated in the establishment of a "dinner for a halfpenny." The Emperor of the French can spare a thought for all; and for the working classes of his metropolis he has been possessed of a great idea. He has already caused to be established in the gay city six dining-rooms for the million, "under the patronage of the Prince Imperial," in which, for one sou, any person may obtain a pint of soup, two ounces of cooked meat, a plate of rice, haricot beans, or other vegetables.

Why has it been left for the most occupied man in Europe to invent this excellent anti-famine movement, when the distress, from all accounts, is thrice as terrible on this as upon the other side of the Channel? If we have no invention we have money, and by promptly stealing the Emperor's idea we might employ that money more judiciously than the most beneficent alms-giver possibly could. It is a trite saying, that the English are never tired of subscribing to charities. If further proof of this were wanting, it could be furnished in the list just opened at the Mansion House for the object of alleviating in some measure the prevailing misery. In the first three days nearly £1,000 were subscribed; this, too, at an epoch when every one has just dipped into his or her pocket for the annual subscriptions to the endless list of charities which for weeks past have occupied so much space in our daily journals. But how will this large sum, together with what has followed and is to follow it, be disposed? May they who have the disposal of it adopt the French Emperor's plan, and speedily, too, for the need is terribly pressing. If they fail to see the benefits of such a disposal of the subscriptions, let us hope that his Imperial Majesty may, out of a kindly feeling for the sometime land of his adoption, run across and show our charitable compatriots how to set to work. If one of these halfpenny dining-halls were started we are convinced that it would be immediately followed by others in every quarter of the metropolis. How much good might have been done had such an establishment existed during the past few weeks in Deptford Broadway?

The advantages of this semi-charity—if we may use the expression—are manifold. In the first place, absurdly low as the price looks, we are far from sure that there would be a loss upon all the comestibles sold for a sou. Going to work in a wholesale way—the only *modus operandi*, of course—and with a retailer's profit saved, a fair amount of vegetable might be given for a halfpenny. The cost of the soup might be also nearly covered; but as regards the meat, we are doubtful. Yet, even here there need be no great loss. The Emperor gives two ounces for a halfpenny—that is, at the rate of fourpence per pound. Of course, it is not all sirloin and sweetbreads, but it is sure to be good, sound meat, and is not purchased in loin-chops or rump-steaks at fourteen to fifteen pence per pound. Bread might be added to the Emperor's *carte*—giving, say, six or eight ounces for the halfpenny. There are a great number of labourers and artisans, whose ordinary earnings are from twenty to thirty shillings weekly, now eager to accept

labour in the stone-yard, where they work their hearts out for about threepence a day, upon which they starve slowly. What a boon would the halfpenny dinner prove to them! Again, there are thousands of honest men too proud to ask the alms of the gruel or loaf of the officer at the workhouse, and who would as soon steal as beg—who hide their sunken cheeks and hollow eyes in empty garrets and dark corners; and many of these could purchase a day's life for a halfpenny. The utterly destitute might be aided by those good Samaritans who make it their business to hunt out cases of real distress by the judicious dispensation of tickets for the halfpenny meal, subscribed for at a rate which would about cover the cost. Another great advantage would be, that, as a large staff of assistants would, doubtless, be necessary in each of these establishments, it might be the means of employing a small percentage of the sufferers, who would, doubtless, be thankful to give their work for their board and a nominal wage.

We sincerely trust that our suggestion may attract the attention of one of the legion of philanthropists who pass their lives in labouring to alleviate the sufferings of the distressed lower orders in their own city—that some Peabody or Shaftesbury may think well of imitating the French Emperor's plan: if so, we shall not have written in vain.

THE LIONS OF THE DAY.

Sir Edwin Landseer's lions have arrived at last! So many years have elapsed since our illustrious artist was commissioned by the Government to model the noble brutes which adorn the base of the Nelson column, that we, in common, we believe, with most of our neighbours, had long since despaired of making their acquaintance. They have served our comic journals and burlesque writers as an inexhaustible theme for their witticisms as long as we can remember, until we have begun to look upon them as a myth of the Mrs. Harris school, and everybody's joke. Several French writers, upon the strength of Jules Gerard's vivid descriptions, poured the vials of their wrath upon Dr. Livingstone's devoted head, because the latter, in his homely, matter-of-fact way, likened the forest king to an old woman in her night-cap! How much more judicious has Sir Edwin Landseer brought down upon his lions!

A glance at the lions as they this week appear in Trafalgar-square brings Dr. Livingstone's simile very vividly before our minds; for, notwithstanding the many years they have been getting up, they are still in their shirts!

For the accompanying illustration our artist has availed himself of the kind permission of Baron Marochetti to make a drawing of one of the long-talked-of lions at the Baron's foundry in the Fulham-road.

By the time that we go to press the ceremony of uncovering the lions will have been performed, of which we shall take occasion to speak in our next issue.

THE WRECK OFF THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

Amongst the many appalling disasters at sea which have of late shocked the general mind, the foundering of the *Maria Theresa* off the coast of the Isle of Wight, and the terrible details (which have recently been given to our readers) accompanying it, have obtained a great share of the public attention. The engraving shows the ill-starred vessel already sinking, while two heavily-laden boats are pulling off for their lives; at the same instant the last man on the ship is lowering himself by a rope into the third boat.

IRISH BOGWOOD CARRIERS.

The Irish bogwood carriers in the accompanying engraving are admirably depicted, as all persons who have travelled in Erin must acknowledge. The shoeless human lasses are very fair types of the Irish girl, to be seen only in her native country, and vastly different in every way to the daughters of St. Giles's here. The late inclement weather has given ample employment for the bogwood-carriers.

EVICION OF IRISH TENANTRY.

Our artist has chosen a sad subject for his pencil. The deplorable figures are the members of an evicted family upon the tramp, carrying all their worldly wealth in their hands.

TOWN SKETCHES.

REGENT-STREET.

We this week present our readers with an engraving of what a well-known inhabitant of the street has called the "first street in the first city of the world"—or rather a portion of that same—for we commence by Hanover-street. The only objects of interest which our view embraces, are the two prominent churches, viz., Hanover Church, standing out upon the left, and the Extinguisher Church, whose pointed steeple takes the centre of the extreme background of our view.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The companion sketch to the foregoing is the London and North-Western Railway Station at Euston Square, whose noble Grecian entrance is well worthy of a visit from any of our country cousins who may be exploring the metropolis.

Professor Fawcett, in a letter to the operatives of the Brighton Railway Works on the question of foreign competitive labour, points out that the national and safe principle of Free-trade is that each nation should have unrestricted freedom in producing, for the general good of mankind, that which it can best produce. Protection is a mere attempt to bring about an unnatural state of things, and to tempt communities to produce something which they cannot advantageously produce. Successful and healthy resistance to foreign competition must have a better foundation. A reduction of taxation cheapens production; and education, with the double result of giving us intelligent working men and less crime and pauperism, has the same effect. But the cessation of that terrible disorganiser of industry—strikes—is, in the opinion of the Professor, the most important of all, and to secure that he thinks the co-operative principle should be extended.

You can restore health and strength without medicine, inconvenience, or expense by eating Dr. Barry's delicious health-restoring Invalid and Infants' Food, the Revealing Arabic, which yields thrice the nourishment of the best meat, and cures Dyspepsia (indigestion), Cough, Asthma, Consumption, Debility, Palpitation of the Heart, Constipation, Diarrhoea, Acidity, Heartburn, Nervous, Biliary, Liver, and Stomach complaints, and saves fifty times its cost in other remedies. 50,000 cures, including that of his Holiness the Pope, which had resisted all other remedies for thirty years. Dr. Barry and Co., 77, Regent-street, London. In tin, at 1s. 1½d.; 1lb, 2s. 9d.; 12lbs, 22s.; 24lbs, 40s. At all grocers.—[Advertisement.]

Original Theatrical Gossip.

All communications on Theatrical or Musical matters to be addressed "To the DRAMATIC EDITOR" at the Publishing Office of THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

We learn that Mr. Sothorn has accepted a comedy from the pen of the author of the Covent Garden pantomime, Mr. Gilbert a Beckett.

The veteran pantomimist, Mr. W. H. Payne of the Covent Garden Theatre, has made a curious presentation of two handsome silver medals to the fore and hind legs of his donkey for their attention to his training for the Covent Garden pantomime opening.

The divine Carlotta Patti is in Milan. She gave two successful concerts there last week.

The celebrated Col. Pipes, of Pipeville (otherwise Jeems Pipes), whose entertainment entitled *Drifting About* has been making such a sensation in America, arrived in London last week. Jeems Pipes, otherwise Mr. Stephen Massett, has already created for himself such a reputation as a lecturer, humourist, and author, that we look forward to his first appearance in public with as much eagerness as we did for the "delicious Artemus."

Herr Formes, the celebrated bass singer, has returned from America, and is now starring in Hamburg.

The beautiful Menken is still creating quite a *furor* in Paris. The eminent composer of dance music, Strauss, has dedicated his last waltz to the fair Adah Isaacs of scanty apparel.

The *Flying Scud* still holds its own at the Holborn Theatre; but we hear that a new drama by Mr. Tom Taylor is in rehearsal. This is to be followed by a burlesque by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, the author of the eccentricity at the St. James Theatre, *Dulcamara*.

We learn also that Mr. Gilbert is engaged in the preparation of a burlesque for the Royalty.

The successful author of *David Garrick, Society, and Ours* has written a new play for the Princess's, as well as for the St. James's.

Miss Herbert's next revival we hear is to be *The Road to Ruin*.

Continental sovereigns never tire of rewarding art; and musical celebrities especially are continually loaded with royal favours. The Queen of Spain has decorated the French tenor, Naudin, with the order of Isabella the Catholic. The great violinist, M. Vieuxtemps, appeared last week at a concert given by the Brussels society, "Réunion Lyrique," before the King of the Belgians. His Majesty honoured the great artist with a long chat, at the conclusion of the concert.

The theatre at Munich, which King Louis ordered to be built on Wagner's design, is now finished. It is constructed with exquisite taste, and promises to respond to the utmost exigencies of the author of *Tannhauser*. In fact it surpasses the ideal of Wagner, who, in his preface to the *Nibelungen*, demanded a mere building of brick, whereas his royal master has given him a perfect temple of art of the purest and most exalted style.

A foolish divine—a Dissenter—has denounced the Crystal Palace, and attributed the recent fire to a judgment of the Almighty, sent because the directors wished to open the establishment on Sundays. As authority for the assertion he quoted Jeremiah, to the effect that all "Palaces" shall be destroyed by fire because of the desecration of the Sabbath. Jeremiah, according to this expounder of prophecy, had his eye on Sydenham when he made this assertion. This silly and irreverent person, who connects every catastrophe with a vindictive and avenging Providence whom he makes to cruelly punish sin even before it has been committed, is named Richard Roberts, and—more to the disgrace of the body—is a Wesleyan.

The Sisters Marchisio have obtained in Rome a triumphant reception in *Norma*. The Censor could not stand the title of *Norma*; we should rather have said the Sisters were successful in the *Foresta d'Irminsul*. We wonder what his Holiness has to fear in the titles of so many operas? The Sicilian Vespers has also been given with great success, but under another title. We can understand the religious allusion this one contains being too much for the Eternal City: but why change *Norma*? The name of the erring priestess expresses nothing—not even that she is a priestess; and for the rest we believe that the plot has been in no way modified with the title. We should like to treat the Eternal City to a view of our Paolo Bedfordi in the *Foresta d'Irminsul*.

The eminent Italian composer Verdi has had the misfortune to lose his father, who died recently at Busseto.

It may not be known to many of our readers that most of the Continental theatres are partly supported by their respective Governments. Even at this failure in the theatrical world are many and frequent, and the managers, doubtless, look with envious eyes upon our own Buckstones, Websters, Gyes, Mapletons, &c. The Italian opera at St. Petersburg has been recently stopped; but the latest advices show that the Imperial stoppage is likely to prove merely transient. It appears that the Emperor, perceiving that the State budget was charged with enormous expenses consequent upon exorbitant contracts made with certain artists, decided upon putting a stop to that state of things. A Czar may easily do what an ordinary manager would hesitate to undertake. A contract between artist and chamberlain has no valid weight with him. Thus the interruption to the Italian performances is due to the Emperor's regard for economy, and will only last a season; after which opera will be resumed under a more moderate system.

We learn that the T. P. Cooke prize drama, *True to the Core*, will shortly be produced at the Amphitheatre, Liverpool. May it prove as remunerative to the management as it has already done to Messrs. Shepherd and Creswick here.

Loveday's Opera Company are again about to visit Newcastle-under-Lyne. Milne, Dyer and Mr. Bowler still retain their position as soprano and tenor.

Cagliostro, at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, is still doing well. It has evidently proved a great success. Are we to see anything of *Cagliostro* in London?

Mr. Arthur Sketchley has, during the past week, been giving his entertainment, *Mrs. Brown at the Play*, to well-filled houses at Bristol.

Attractive as Madame Stodare's entertainment already was, with the assistance of the Sphinx and the Indian basket trick, that lady has not been content to rely for a continuance of public favour on her own unsupported efforts, but has summoned to her aid Herr Adalbert Frikell, son of the well-known conjuror, Wiljalba Frikell, who appeared with so much success in London in 1862, and Mr. Jester, better known as "The Man with a Talking Hand," who is certainly one of the most humorous and clever ventriloquists of modern times. Herr Frikell is certainly very clever as a conjuror, and though his tricks are not altogether new, he performs them with a cleanness and expertness which entitles him to a first place amongst the professors of his art. Every one likes to know the secret of making money, and Herr Frikell in his mysterious coinage lets them into it, which we must not do here, but recommend our readers to go and see Herr Frikell, and learn for themselves. Mr. Jester's ventriloquism kept his audience in a roar of laughter from the time that he came on the stage till he left it. He introduces some lay figures, with whom he carries on with most consummate skill a comic conversation. His talking hand is inimitable, and must be seen to be appreciated. No description could do it justice, and if there were nothing else to see in the Theatre of Mystery but this it would be well worthy a visit. Madame Stodare, then, having supplemented her entertainment by such excellent and appropriate additions, may fairly look forward to a continuance of that liberal public support which it has hitherto been her good fortune to enjoy.

PROGRESS OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

Heavy goods are already arriving at the Palace of the Champ de Mars. A railway brings the goods not only into the Palace, but delivers them in the court for which they are destined. Austria is going to send an extraordinary illuminated missal, the work of the Académie des Beaux Arts at Vienna; and a glass window, which the Emperor Francis Joseph is about to send to the Cathedral of Nancy, to decorate the chapel of the Dukes of Lorraine. The thaw has reduced the ground round the Exhibition to such a Slough of Despond that a pilgrimage thither is impossible.

Her Majesty's Commissioners' proposal to present, at one view, as nearly as practicable, every publication which has issued from the Press of the United Kingdom during the year 1866, has made very successful progress towards completion. Upwards of 3,000 volumes have been contributed by the various publishers as a loan for exhibition, and almost all the leading firms in London and in Edinburgh have sent in their publications of the year, including many of magnificent and costly character. Something, however, remains to be accomplished, and it is to be hoped that those houses which have not yet furnished their contingent toward this interesting national enterprise will make haste to do so. We understand that Saturday, Feb. 2, is fixed as the last day for receiving these publications at the Paris Office, South Kensington Museum. The portion of the machinery gallery which has been assigned to Great Britain contains eighty large clerestory windows. It is intended to fill these with blinds of a decorative character, and a window has been offered to each of the most important corporations of Great Britain, chambers of commerce, civic companies, and railway companies, to enable blinds illustrating the manufactures, &c., peculiar to the town; or decorated with designs heraldic, or otherwise, to be erected. Among those which have at present accepted this invitation are the corporations of London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, Belfast, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Bradford, Oldham, Rochdale, Stoke Chamber of Commerce, the Honourable the Mercers' Company, and the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company. The British Executive will fill several windows with blinds illustrating the early history of invention, which will form an interesting series. Stephenson's "Rocket," Brathwaite's "Novelty," Hackworth's "Sanspareil," being the earliest locomotives, Lymington's steam paddle-engine, which was the first successful engine of its kind, Watt's "Sun" and "Planet" beam engines, and Arkwright's loom furnish subjects.

THE NEW FUEL.—COAL SURPASSED.

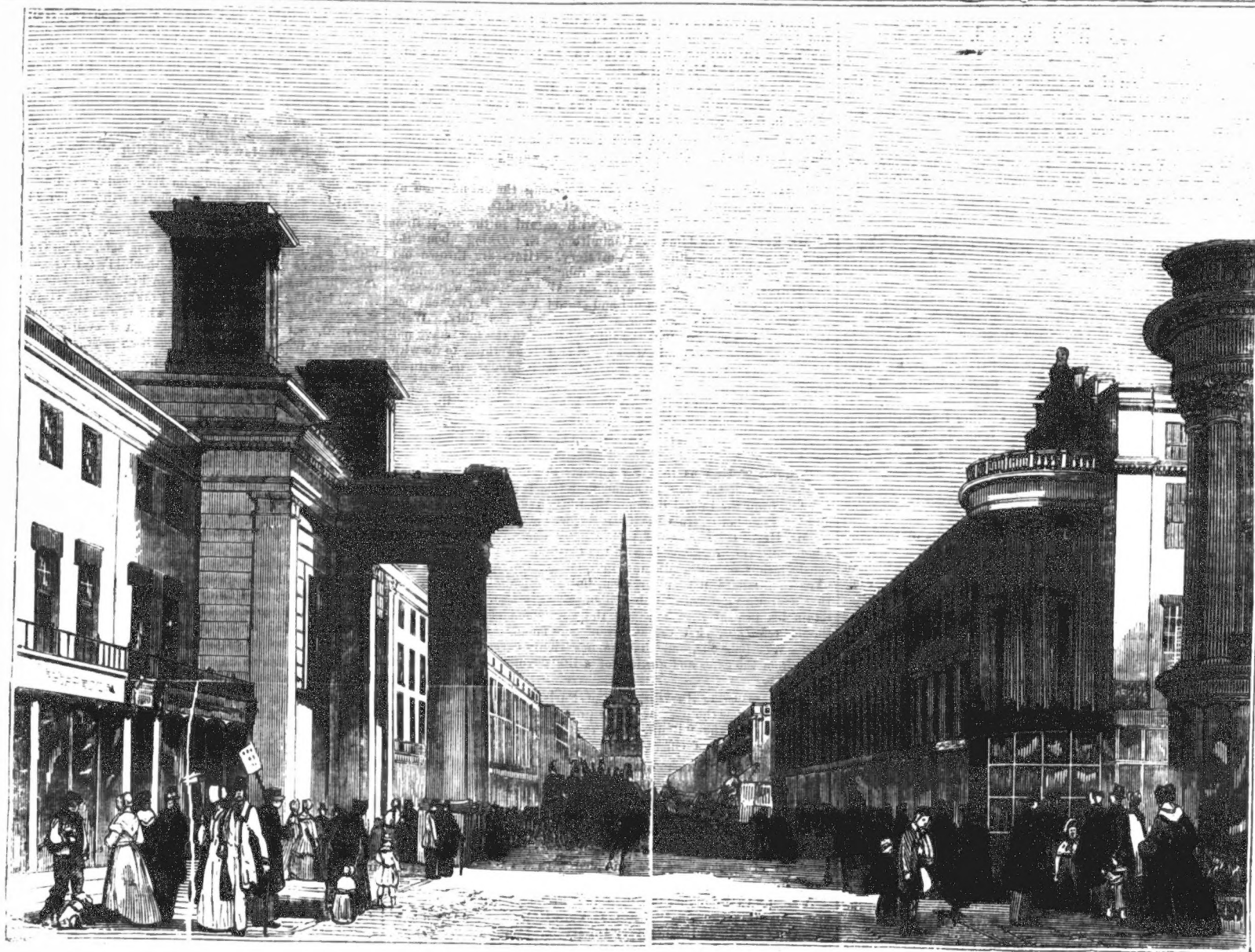
Some day, we have been told, a scuttle of coals in England will be as rare as a Queen Anne's farthing, as the skip-bone of a Dodo, or good sense in a Tory. In view of that melancholy fact, it is comfortable to hear that the empire will not be left without a kitchen fire and a steamboat, nor obliged to depend upon America for petroleum. There exist in England, it seems, plentiful supplies of a mineral combustible called shale oil, and experiments were made at Milwall last Saturday to try if it could be advantageously used in place of coal for marine engines. The results are most satisfactory, although the condition of the experiments was against the new fuel. One pound of the shale-oil introduced into a red-hot generator, and thus turned to inflammable gas, converted 22 pounds of water to steam; and it results from such figures that an enormous economy might be made by employing shale-oil instead of coal at sea. The well known ship *Persia*, for example, of 3,500 tons, must carry 1,500 tons of coal for her swift passages; and it is calculated that she might save 1,000 tons of stowage space, and £3,000 in cost, by the use of such a liquid fuel. We are told that nothing but the employment of needlessly refined oils could bring the price of the coals and the new fuel at all together, while the space which the fluid would save for cargo puts comparison out of the question. Here is a momentous statement, which the great mail companies will surely follow up without a day's delay. For our parts, we proceed to stir the fire with a reckless extravagance, convinced that the "coal question" will settle itself pleasantly in some such way, and that the time will arrive when we, or posterity at any rate, shall either burn sea-water in our steam-ships, or carry fuel for a long cruise in the captain's writing-desk.

An interesting race has taken place between two American clipper ships, the *Luis Walsh* and *Charlotte W. White*, both of Belfast, Maine, from Callao to Algieras. These two vessels sailed from Callao on the 26th of September last, at the same hour, and kept company for fifty-four days, passing Cape Horn on the twenty-sixth day. They parted in lat. 20 S., long. 24 W., crossing the line in sixty-five days, losing the N.E. trades in lat. 28, long. 36 W., after which time they had light east winds for seventeen days, and came in company again on the 30th of December, but parted the same evening. On the 9th of January they met again off Gibraltar, when the *Luis Walsh* won the race by twenty-five minutes, after a passage of 104 days.

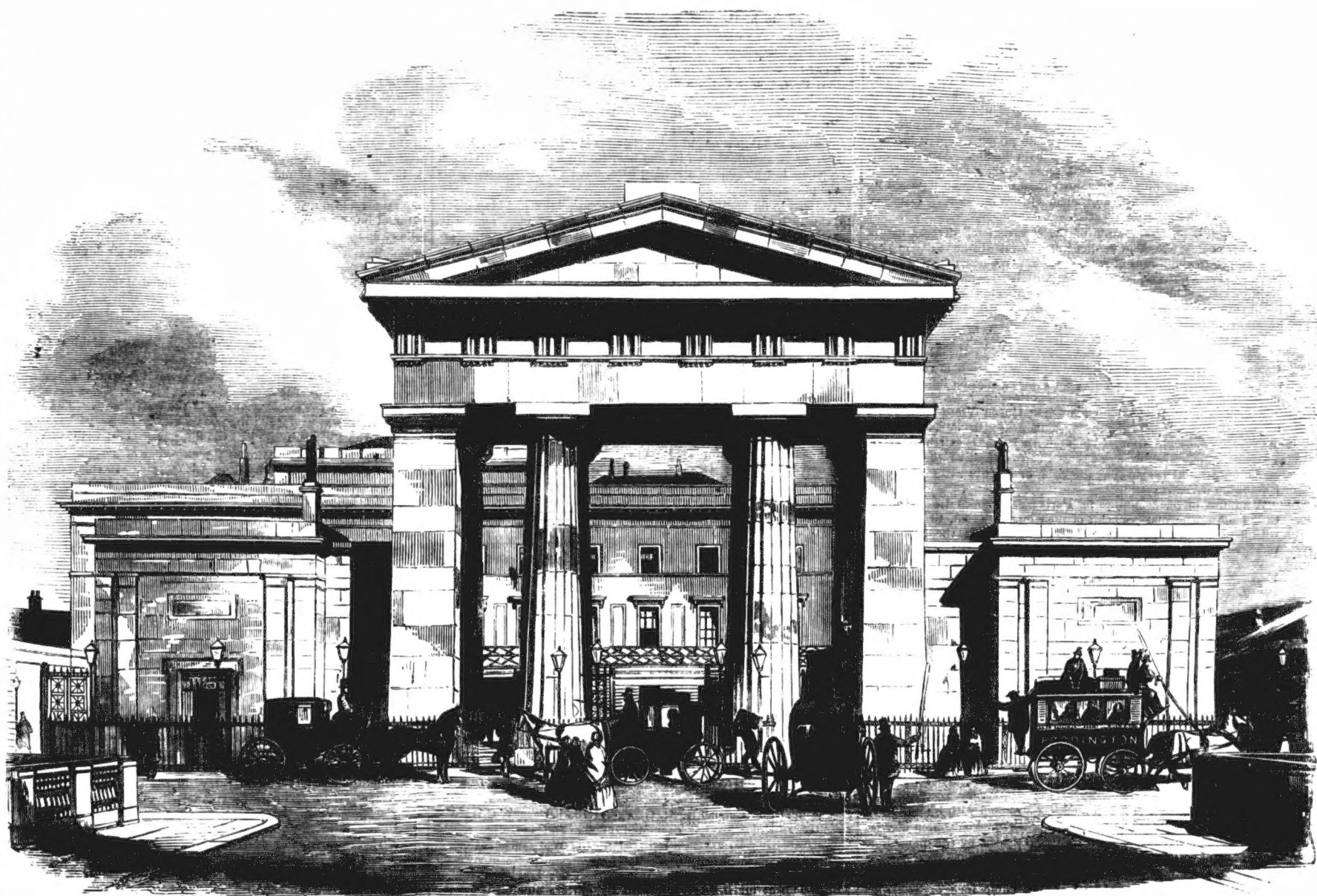
The honour of a baronetcy is about to be conferred on Sir James Emerson Tennent, who, in addition to his claims as an administrator is well known as an accomplished author. The honour about to be bestowed upon him may thus be regarded as, in some measure, a compliment to literature. We believe it is the first occasion on which an Irishman has received the dignity upon this ground.



FISHING BOATS OFF HASTING. (See p. 532.)



REGENT STREET. (See page 535).



LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY. (See page 535.)

FISHING BOATS OFF HASTINGS. (See page 532).

Odds and Ends.

A PARIS correspondent of a Belgian journal mentions that the Emperor fainted the other day on his return from a shooting excursion, and that he is subject to fainting fits after great exertion, but that his general health is now very satisfactory.

THERE cannot be two opinions about the sentence lately passed upon Lord Ernest Vane Tempest. It was as severe as undeserved. However, it will do no harm to the nobleman in question—his lordship has entered prison as a captive, he will leave it as a martyr.

DR. ORI, an African traveller of some reputation in Italy, has just returned to Milan from Soudan. He has brought with him a very rich botanical collection, part of which will be sent to the Paris Exhibition.

THE country of Europe in which the greatest number of marriages takes place is Saxony, where the average is 1 yearly to every 117 inhabitants. The proportion in Spain is 1 in 126. In France the rate is 1 in 127.

THE Louvre Museum has just purchased six frescoes by Luini from a palace at Milan. They are said to be important both from their size and artistic merit.

TRAVELLERS and tourists who purpose visiting Italy will be interested to know that at length the railway from Rome to Florence has been completed. The two capitals are now only twelve hours apart, a fact of considerable importance in a political as well as travelling point of view.

MISS SELON is about to visit Honolulu, in order to establish fresh sisterhoods in the Sandwich Islands.

A VERDICT of "Wilful Murder" against the Lancers by the hand of one of whom Captain Bartholomew Kiely was killed at Dungarvan on the 28th of December last, is the judgment which an Irish coroner's jury passes on the unhappy business which sprang out of the Waterford election.

It is a remarkable fact, the growth, under Free-trade principles, of the revenues of countries. Thus, in England, it amounts to a million and three-quarters annually; in France, to about two millions sterling; and in Italy, for the year 1866, the increased income from the indirect taxes was little short of one million and a half sterling.

EXPECTED COLLIERY LOCK-OUT.—A large meeting of unionist miners was held at Old Basford, near Nottingham; Mr. Bolbridge in the chair. Mr. Case said he wished to call attention to the fact that the miners working at the Cinder-hill and Newcastle collieries (belonging to Mr. North) had each received a fortnight's notice to give up the stalls. He did not know what the notice had been given for, but he had been told that it was because the men had been putting slack in the waggons instead of coal. He regretted this, for he wished the men to be honest to their employers. Mr. Brown said Mr. North was about to riddle the men in order to ascertain how many unionists there were. He was afraid that after the riddling there would be very few union men left. A resolution having been passed in favour of the Miners' Association, the meeting terminated.

AN American paper says the wheels of the large ocean steamers make about 200,000 revolutions in crossing the Atlantic between New York and Liverpool.

SHIPWRECKED MARINERS' SOCIETY.—A meeting of the committee of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society was held last week, under the presidency of Captain the Hon. Francis Maude, R.N., when 111 claims for relief were considered, all arising from the recent storms. 23 were cases of widows, and 88 were instances of shipwrecked mariners who sought assistance to replace clothes that they had lost by the destruction of their vessels. Besides these, 311 applications for relief were made by widows of drowned mariners having orphan children, who had in former years been assisted, but who are suffered in case of need, annually to prefer a request for help during the time that their children remain young. Arrangements were made to extend relief to all these cases. The secretary reported that a large number of shipwrecked men had been passed by the society to their homes, and some of them had been furnished with clothes and other necessities.

What will be the ending of the "sensation" divorce case of Hancock v. Peaty? The verdict in this trial will be really of vital importance to thousands of married men. We fear that if it is decided in favour of the plaintiff there will be disunion in many an English household, and joy in many a Pall-Mall club. Ah! it is a sad thing to know that, even in the nineteenth century, there are scores of husbands who are thoroughly convinced that they must have been mad when they married!

A pocket-book, given by Marie Antoinette to the Marquise de Caumont, governess of the Count d'Artois's children in 1781, was sold at the auction mart in Paris, on Friday, week for 9,000*fr.* It is understood that the Empress Eugenie is the purchaser.

Some of the French journals state that Queen Victoria will probably go to Germany in the spring, and also visit Paris for a few days to see the Exhibition. The Queen's journey will be quite of a private character, although she will be the guest of the Emperor and Empress.—It is said that the King of Prussia will also pay the Exhibition a visit.

A number of poor families in Paris having been turned out of their lodgings for non-payment of their quarter's rent, the Emperor, with his usual liberality, has placed a large sum at the disposal of the Prefect of Police to relieve their necessities.

A SECOND appeal has been made to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to suspend the searching of passengers' luggage during the Paris Exhibition. We are bound to say that Mr. Watkin made out an excellent case on behalf of the petitioners, which Mr. Disraeli scarcely answered in his reply. If, however, the French Government have made no movement in the matter at present, we are not surprised that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should hesitate before expressing any definite determination in a matter where co-operation is so essential. The middle course suggested, namely, examination of luggage during the journey, would, at least, get rid of some of the present disagreeables.

SEVERAL Continental papers give curious statistics of assassination. The proportion of murderers is, in England, 1 in 678,000 souls; Holland, 1 in 163,000; Prussia, 1 in 100,000; Austria, 1 in 77,000. France is politely left out of the calculation!

As a proof of the severity of the weather in London, it is recorded that last week a Blue-coat boy was seen with his cap on!

A MAN named Blowick and his wife, who had only been married three months, have been suffocated at Balcarras by the fumes from a pan of fire which they had placed in their bedroom.

It has been found that in certain Bohemian schists there are fifty-one millions of animalcules to the cubic inch, each skeleton weighing no more than the two-hundred-millionth part of a grain.

LORD STRATHNAIRN is to leave Dublin for London in a few days, and in the absence of the Commander-in-Chief the command of the forces in Ireland will devolve on Major-General Bates and Brigadier-General McMurdo.

At the fancy dress ball at Brighton the other evening, there were but four gentlemen in mufti. The rest of the male sex appeared in fancy costumes or uniforms.

By a letter just received from Paris we learn that on Saturday night Cora had a great success, stalls selling for five louis each.

GREAT indignation has been caused among the old noblesse by the recent demolitions in the Quartier St. Germain.

It is said that a hitch has arisen with regard to the prosecution of Mr. Eyre by the Jamaica Committee. Everything about the affair is at present clothed with mystery. Hints are thrown out that "the gentlemen of the black robe" have disagreed among themselves, that the existence of several "awkward witnesses" has been discovered, that an old and stupid Act of Parliament has been unearthed. May we offer a suggestion? Certainly. Well, then, it is just possible that the subscriptions to the fund have not been very numerous of late weeks. Has this anything to do with it? Perhaps the honorary secretary will favour us with a reply.

We regret to learn that "Artemus Ward" is seriously ill. Mr. Browne left London on the 25th ult. for Jersey.

MR. GLADSTONE was received on Sunday last by the Emperor of the French.

RUMOUR reaches us that Sir Thomas Freemantle, the chairman of the Board of Customs, is about to retire from his office. Mr. Herries, from the Inland Revenue Board, is named as his successor, and Mr. Freemantle, from the Treasury, will accept the post vacated by Mr. Herries. The loss of their worthy chairman will be deeply felt by all persons connected with the Customs, as the urbanity and consideration of the gentleman in question for those under him have commanded not only respect, but affection. We understand that a strong representation has been made to him, urging him to retain his present position; but the gentlemen of the Customs should remember that the career of Sir Thomas Freemantle has been a very long one, and that he has richly earned his right to retire from the cares and anxiety of a life devoted to the service of the public.

THAT captivating Anglaise, Cora of Paris, has left journalism in disgust, to follow the path of a new profession. A few nights since she appeared at the "Bouffes" in the character of Cupid, in the *Orphée aux Enfers* of Offenbach.

MISS GLYN'S SHAKESPEARIAN READINGS.—*Hamlet* was read by Miss Glyn on Friday evening. Of this performance we must take leave to speak on a future occasion. Enough for the present that the "reading" was eminently successful, and that the audience was at least as numerous as on any of the former evenings.

At Rennes the authorities have got up workshops in which persons out of employment are provided with work during the cold weather.

A MUSICIAN belonging to one of the French regiments has just met with an extraordinary death at Vera Cruz. He was engaged to play at a ball, and being very thirsty went out into the garden, and, finding a water-bottle on the terrace, took it up and drank freely. Suddenly he raised cries of agony, and upon assistance arriving it was found that an enormous centipede had fixed its mandibles in his throat. The animal had taken up its abode in the neck of the bottle, and was washed into his mouth in the act of drinking. A surgeon who was called was obliged to cut it to pieces, but the poison from the bite caused death in a few hours.

Some robbers got into the cellars of a wine-shop keeper at Levallois-Perret, near Paris, a night or two since, and, after regaling themselves with sundry bottles, ungenerously stove in the heads of several casks and destroyed the contents. Subsequently, the same persons broke into another wine-shop, where they no doubt made themselves drunk, for one of them left his outside coat behind with the badge of a chiffonier on it, and bearing his name and residence. The police lost no time in arresting him, but he refuses to name his accomplices.

The search for bodies in the Regent's Park lake has been given up, the authorities being quite convinced that no more remain in the water. It is stated that the lake will not be drained until Parliament has had an opportunity of expressing an opinion as to how it shall be refilled.

A decision of the Lord Chancellor, given on Saturday, will in all probability put Mr. Hudson, the once famous Railway King, into easy circumstances. He has for years been engaged in litigation with the North Eastern Railway Company, in respect to certain mortgaged property, and the Lord Chancellor's decision is in Mr. Hudson's favour.

Last week an eccentric old woman, well known for many years in the southern district of the metropolis as "Jenny, the cat-slayer," but whose real name was Hannah Henson, was discovered lying dead in a state of nudity, in a wretched, filthy room, in Harriet Street, Lower Marsh, Lambeth. At an inquest on the body, which was held on Saturday, it was proved that, although "Jenny" had lived for many years apparently in the utmost state of destitution, she died worth, £111 2s. 9d., the bank-book for which was produced, as well as sundry other sums of money said to have been hidden in her stays, but which were said to have been mysteriously abstracted. A will was also produced, leaving all the money to some Maria Kate Brown, who cannot be found. The verdict was to the effect that death had arisen from deceased having, by her penurious habits, neglected to provide herself with proper nourishment.

More than one-half of the population of New York is foreign-born. The ratio is 51 per cent. foreign to 49 of natives.

There were 200 arrests for drunkenness and disorderly conduct in New York on New Year's day.

A Frenchman recently arrived at Chicago, Illinois, and immediately repaired to the residence of Mrs. Lincoln, to whom he presented a medal in behalf of 20,000 Frenchmen, as a testimonial of their reverence for Abraham Lincoln.

The steamer *Chilian*, with dates from Jamaica January 3, has arrived at Liverpool.

News had been received of a rising of Indians at Honduras, and troops had been sent from Kingstown to Belize to suppress the revolt.

The death of Colonel A. St. George Herbert Stepney, C.B., who recently retired from the command of the 2nd battalion of the Coldstream Guards, has been reported at the War Office. Colonel Stepney died on the 23rd ult., at Jersey, from the effects of an accident. His decease has cast a gloom over his late regiment, in which he was much respected, both by officers and men.

About 400 Hanoverian officers have entered the Prussian service.

THE climate has had a sad effect upon the Maine colonists at Jaffa, and twelve of them have died.

Two of the most decided opponents of Count Bismarck's policy, Herren Virchow and Jakoby, have declined to stand as candidates for the North German Parliament.

MR. HENRY LESLIE's choir will give three (besides that which took place January 31) subscription concerts during this (twelfth) season at St. James's Hall, on the following evenings:—February 28, April 4, and May 10. Miss Edith Wynne and M^{rs}. Sauton Dolby will assist. Mr. Leslie also announces a performance of Mendelssohn's "Antigone" on Wednesday evening, February 13, at St. James's Hall, when the chorus will number 240 male voices. Herr Joachim will be the violinist.

SOME gossip reaches us from Frankfort. *L'Europe*, a well-known paper published in that city, is for sale. The Grand-Elector of Hesse-Cassel has taken Baron Rothschild's (of Vienna) town-house, and will remain over the winter in Frankfort. The Duke of Nassau is also looking for a mansion in Frankfort. His Highness continues at Rumpenheim. The duchess, who is also there, has been dangerously ill, but is now recovering. A dramatic version of Wilkie Collins's "Woman in White" has been produced with some success both at Frankfort and Wiesbaden.

WE are requested to contradict a statement which has obtained rather wide currency, that Lady Herbert of Lea has given £10,000 to the Roman Catholic Church, to be applied to the purchase of Priory Park, near Bath. There is no foundation whatever for the statement.

GREAT agitation prevails at Carlsruhe in consequence of the discovery that the crown diamonds of Baden have been stolen and replaced by glass.

Edward William Williams has been charged before the Dublin magistrates with having presented a revolver, at the pit-door of the Theatre Royal in that city, at a person named Carroll, whilst the public were entering to witness the performance. The prisoner, who gave his residence as Bow, London, on being searched, was found to have on his person this revolver pistol with five barrels loaded, and sixty-five patent ball cartridges. He had also £41 in his pocket and a railway and steam-packet ticket. He gave no explanation, and was remanded for inquiries.

Lady Castlemaine has just died at Moydrum Castle, in the county of Westmeath.

A GRENADIER of the Imperial Guard has just recovered 1,808*fr.* as damages for having been jilted by a young widow keeping a *café* at Havre.

THE Second Mastership of the Free Grammar School of Newport, Shropshire, rendered vacant by the resignation of the Rev. J. W. Alloway, M.A., has been conferred, by the Haberdashers' Company upon Mr. Mark Sauton, B.A., of Cambridge.

AN amusing story reaches us from India. Mr. and Mrs. —, of Bombay, lately gave a dinner party to some forty of their friends. While the currie was being handed round, a letter was brought to the mistress of the house. She opened it, glanced at it, and handed it, with a smile, to her husband. He read it, and burst into a peal of hearty laughter. On being asked the cause of his mirth, he replied, "Why, as the joke is too good to keep between myself and wife, I will tell it to you, and then you can laugh with us." Upon this he read out to the assembled company an impassioned proposal of elopement from Col. —, commanding one of the European regiments serving in the Presidency, to Mrs. —. The story got wind, and "when our parcel left," the gallant colonel had not quite completed his elopement.

FIVE more men of the 85th Regiment have been placed under arrest in Dublin on a charge of complicity in the Fenian conspiracy. The special constabulary arrangements made some time ago in the county Cork district, in consequence of the disturbed state of the country, have ceased, quiet and confidence having been restored.

The late Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, was buried on Monday in the vaults beneath the chapel of that institution. Dr. Macdonnell, according to the inscription on his coffin, was seventy years of age. A large number of official personages, several Irish bishops and judges, and the Fellows of the college attended. In preaching the funeral sermon on Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Todd stated that the educational improvements suggested by the late Provost when a junior fellow, had been "the saving of the college."

The Saxon Government has ordered 100 cast steel guns of Herr Krupp.

Captain Sherard Osborn, R.N., is appointed Managing Director of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company.

The new railway bridge across the Rhine at Mannheim has now been completed.

In consequence of Lord Derby's indisposition, the Cabinet Council on Tuesday was held at his lordship's house in St. James's-square.

THE Italian papers state that, owing to high winds in the Adriatic, Venice has been inundated to an extent which has never been equalled within the memory of any of the inhabitants. The Piazza of San Mark was so flooded that boats and gondolas passed over it, and the whole of the space had the appearance of a vast lake.

THE microscope reveals to us the existence of a small black spot of the diameter of a pin's head in the potato. In this small space can be detected some 200 ferocious animals of a coleopterian form, which bite and tear each other with continued fury. It is easy to comprehend the potato disease when such an intestine warfare is raging.

AN old woman of seventy has been committed for trial at Drogheda for having arms and ammunition concealed in the apartment which she occupied in an almshouse.

LUCKY SCOTIA.—The Senior Wranglership has again fallen to a Scotchman. This time the winner of the coveted distinction is Mr. Charles Niven, of Trinity College, whose brother was Second Wrangler last year. Mr. Niven was educated at Aberdeen University, and he is the fourth Aberdeen man who, within the last few years, has stood at the head of the list. In rapid succession Professor Fuller has sent up Mr. Stirling, Mr. Slesser, Mr. Barker, and Mr. Niven. The last was such a distinguished student before he left his native country that, ever since he came into residence at Cambridge, he has been confidently named as the man who would be first in 1867. Is Aberdeen preparing any more of the same stamp? If so, they must be handicapped, for it is too bad that a northern university should carry off the chief honours in such quick succession. The real explanation of the success is, that the Scotchmen came to Cambridge after having had a four years' training at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, or St. Andrew's; and hence lads from Eton or Harrow, who have not gone through the same long and rigorous mathematical drilling, compete with them at a great disadvantage. Let that fact be remembered while we give the Scottish universities the credit which they may justly claim.

Law and Police.

POLICE COURTS.

MARLBOROUGH STREET.

On Saturday Richard Peck, landlord of the Salisbury Arms Tavern, Weston-place, King's-cross, and Francis Adams, of No. 42, Bayham-street, Camden Town, were brought on a warrant before Mr. Knox, charged with unlawfully printing and publishing a false, scandalous, and defamatory libel concerning Marian Dorothy Groves, widow.

Mr. George Lewis appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Collins for the defence.

Mr. Lewis said the defendants were charged on the warrant with publishing a libel, but he should ask that they be committed for conspiring together to publish a libel against a lady named Groves. Three years ago Mrs. Groves was left a widow with a large fortune. The defendant Peck became acquainted with her, and was engaged to be married to her, but the engagement was broken off and the intimacy put an end to. A few months afterwards an announcement appeared in the papers that Mrs. Groves had given birth to a child, which announcement was no doubt invented by some ruffian for the purpose of annoying Mrs. Groves. Since that time Mrs. Groves had been continually annoyed in various ways, particularly by the publication of the libel now complained of, copies of which were not only sent to persons known to her, but the libel, which was in doggerel verse, was sung about the streets of London. As no printer's name was attached to the verses there had been some difficulty in tracing the author, but subsequently it was discovered that the defendant Adams was the person who agreed with the printer for 3,000 copies to be printed. On being traced by the police and taken into custody, he stated that he had been acting under the direction of the defendant Peck. In the possession of Adams were found a number of the bills, and also the manuscript of the song in the handwriting of Peck. When Adams was taken into custody, he said, "Well, Peck has lost £1,500 a year by not being married to the widow." The libel was of such a disgraceful nature that he would not insult the court by reading or commenting, and he would simply hand it in and then call his witnesses. The libel was a copy of verses containing indecent allusions to the trade of the complainant's late husband, the well-known fishmonger of Bond-street, and abominable insinuations against the complainant. Evidence in support of the learned gentleman's statement having been given, Mr. Lewis said—Having made out a *prima facie* case, I have now to ask for the committal of the defendants.—Mr. Collins: I object to that course, as Peck's name has only been mentioned in conversations between Adams and the police.—Mr. Knox: I am not going to commit on the case as it stands at present. There are several points which require clearing up. I shall remand the defendants, and at the next examination Mr. Lewis will, probably, be able to prove Peck's handwriting.—Mr. Collins: I have to ask that the defendants be admitted to bail.—Mr. Knox: I decline to take bail.—The defendants were remanded.

THAMES.

Israel Levi, charged with being concerned in stealing two 450 notes under singular circumstances, was brought up on remand. The statement of the prosecutor, a ropemaker, of Bethnal-green, was fully reported on the 19th inst. It was, in brief, that he had been robbed by a woman of bad character while under the influence of drugged liquor. The notes, which had been changed, were traced to the prisoner, who said he took them in the way of business. It was now elicited that the prosecutor had been drinking for days together, spending his nights in low haunts of vice, and would not swear that he had not given the notes away.—The Magistrate said prisoner's conduct was highly suspicious, but, under the circumstances, he would be discharged.

LAMBETH.

ALLEGED GROSS PERJURY BY TWO POLICEMEN.—Edward Sharp and Charles Cox, foreman to Mr. Webster, contractor for the construction of the South Thames Embankment, appeared before Mr. Elliott for final examination on a charge of violently assaulting Police-constable Arthur Barritt, 57 L, and Policeman George Pratt, 389 P, in the execution of their duty. The case occupied the attention of Mr. Elliott for nearly two hours on the first hearing, and from the evidence then given, it appeared by the testimony of the Constable Barritt, that on the Monday evening before, he was told while on duty in the neighbourhood that he was wanted at the Ship public-house, and that while going there he met Pratt, and requested that he would accompany him, and he did so; that the moment he got inside the door, he was struck violently on the face by Sharp, knocked down on the floor, and while down beaten and kicked in an unmerciful manner. In cross-examination by Mr. Neale, for the defendants, the witness repeated his evidence that he had been struck by Sharp when he entered the shop, and asserted that he had not been in the house with the defendants. The other constable, Pratt, fully corroborated Barritt's evidence, and also said he had seen the defendant, Cox, kick his brother officer while down. For the defence numbers of respectable and credible witnesses were called, who swore that both the policemen were standing at the bar of the shop drinking rum when the defendants entered, and that the disturbances commenced by the Constable Barritt offering to give Sharp the first tap on the face or knock-down blow for a crown. Barritt stoutly denied this, and both spoke to the perfect truth of the statements they had made; and Mr. Elliott made up his mind to send the case to the sessions, but adjourned it till a copy of the depositions might be made out. When the case was called on Monday, Mr. Neale said there was one witness more whom he wished to call, and that was the person who had treated the policemen to rum, and was standing at the bar with them when the defendants entered the Ship public-house. This evidence he should like to place on the depositions, and also to have the constables identified by the witness, but he did not see them present. Mr. Inspector Heath, of the L division, who was present to watch the case, here said that on the day before both Barritt and Pratt had been discharged by the commissioners for a violation of duty, and were not in attendance. On hearing this Mr. Elliott said,—In remarking on the case I must say that it has caused me much pain, inasmuch as that I had not the slightest doubt the two constables had on Wednesday stated upon their oath that which they knew to be a deliberate falsehood. It was quite clear to me, from the testimony of the witnesses on the other side, that they had seen at the bar of the public-house when the defendants came there though they positively denied it, and having told one falsehood they were obliged to swear to several others to support it. It is the first case that has been brought before me during my experience in which I have observed such deliberate falsehoods have been persevered in, or in which I have been obliged to visit the officers of the force with anything like serious censure; but in this case there can

be no doubt that deliberate perjury has been committed. The offenders, I have just been informed, have been dismissed from the force for some breach of duty arising out of this case, and I think it is quite proper that they should be dismissed; for after what has taken place no reliance could be placed on their testimony, and I trust the circumstance will act as a warning to the police generally. The complainants not being here to support their statements, I shall, under the circumstances, dismiss the complaints.

WORSHIP STREET.

On Saturday, at the Worship-street Police-court, a great hulking fellow, although but 19 years, and who gave the name of Thomas Baker, and who described himself as a shoemaker, lodging at No. 3, Osborne-place, Whitechapel (a lodging-house), was charged before Mr. Newton with stealing a leg of mutton, value 6s. Police-constable Soper, 393 A reserve, deposed,—This morning, about eleven o'clock, while on duty in the Whitechapel-road, I saw the prisoner with a leg of mutton beneath his arm. He was stealthily showing it to another man, and from what I heard I walked towards them. Prisoner then ran off, and, as I gained upon him in pursuit, dropped the meat, which a gentleman picked up, and, after I had caught the prisoner, put into my hands. I now produce it. At the station-house he admitted having stolen it from a shop in Baker's-row. Mr. Newton.—What do you say to this? Prisoner.—Why, it is true. A lot of us went to the workhouse for relief, and we were turned away without anything, so we ran into the butcher's, and each of us took something; in fact, I think we cleaned it out. Thomas Burton, the tradesman alluded to, said,—About half-past ten o'clock this morning between two and three hundred men of all sorts rushed into my shop, tore down the joints, and ran off with them. Seeing their determination to take whatever they could lay their hands on, I offered them a shilling to go away quietly, but that was no use whatever. They were evidently resolved on having the meat, and they did have it. Mr. Newton.—How much is your loss? Mr. Burton.—About £5, sir; and not only that, but they broke all my windows. It was very quickly over, sir. Mr. Newton.—You remark that the mob was comprised of all sorts—what sort do you call this?—Mr. Burton.—Why, the very worst sort. There certainly did appear to be some tolerably respectable persons among them—decent people. I identify this man as being amongst the mob. Mr. Newton.—Now, I wish it to be understood that this sort of thing must not be repeated. I am determined on doing the utmost possible to prevent it. It is not to be tolerated that a set of idle fellows should commit such acts with impunity, and, if they fancy they can, it will most assuredly be found that the law is stronger than such persons probably suppose. I send this man to prison for two months, and with hard labour—let it be a caution of what may follow if another case of the kind comes before me.

WESTMINSTER.

John Meredith, a child only seven years of age, was placed at the bar, charged with felony. Richard Farr, of 812, King's-road Chelsea, saddler, said the child walked into his father's shop on Monday afternoon, and stole a small iron punch used in their business. The father of the offender, a block-cutter for paper-stations, said that he sent his son that morning with sixpence to get some bread, instead of which he spent the money in sweetmeats with another boy. Witness added that the boy's mother was dead, and he had nobody at home to take charge of him. He sent him to a national school, but he spent the twopence instead of giving it to the master, and played about the streets. He really did not know what to do with him. Mr. Selfe remarked that he appeared to be comfortably clothed, and asked the boy what he had to say. The little culprit replied that he took the punch out of the man's shop, but would not do so any more. The father said that he was obliged to go out to his work, and could not be at home always to watch over the child. Mr. Selfe remarked that he had better try to get him into the national school in the King's-road again. He could see the teacher and pay him the twopence per week in advance. The child was too young to be treated by the criminal law, and he therefore could not send him to a reformatory by sentence.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

ROBBING THE EARL OF DERBY.—Henry Philip Dashwood Anthony, aged 29, a very gentlemanly-looking young man, said to be highly connected, and who had pleaded guilty to an indictment for forgery, and obtaining £100 by false pretences from the Earl of Derby, was on Monday brought up for judgment. Mr. Giffard, Q.C., who, with Mr. Poland, was instructed to conduct the prosecution on behalf of the Treasury, addressed the Court, and said he thought it right to put the learned judge in possession of all the circumstances connected with the offences to which the prisoner had pleaded guilty. The specific offence to which the defendant had pleaded guilty was the obtaining of £100 from the Royal bounty by means of a letter, purporting to be written by Mrs. Chisholm, in which she represented that she was in great distress, principally through her efforts to aid in the emigration of the poorer classes of her countrymen to Australia, and asking for assistance; and the noble premier, believing her statements to be true, directed that a sum of £100 should be sent to the prisoner from the Royal bounty fund. Immediately upon the receipt of the money, the prisoner appeared to have proceeded to Cheltenham, where he represented himself to be an officer in the army and a man of fortune; and he very nearly succeeded in inducing a lady of fortune, residing at Cheltenham, to marry him, under the belief that his representations were true. Shortly after this the defendant appeared to have gone away from Cheltenham rather hastily, leaving a great many creditors for articles he had obtained, and after this he seemed to have found his way to Plymouth, where he personated a noble lord, and was received and entertained by the officers of the garrison in that capacity, and was also invited to a banquet on board the *Royal Adelaide*. He remained at Plymouth until he had run up debts to a considerable amount, and he then decamped, leaving his creditors in the lurch. Subsequently to this he made application to Mr. Gladstone, in the name of Mrs. Dorothy Drummond Hay, for assistance to aid a deserving family who were desirous of emigrating to Australia, and he received a sum of money from Mr. Gladstone, who was then Chancellor of the Exchequer, for that supposed purpose. The story was discovered to be false, and the prisoner was taken into custody; but, on his expressing the most sincere penitence, and declaring that he would never again commit such an act of dishonesty, Mr. Gladstone consented not to prosecute, and the prisoner was discharged. In order to show the sincerity of the prisoner's penitence, it appeared that he wrote to the officer who had the charge of the case, and told him that if he wanted any information as to where Mrs. Dorothy Drummond could be discovered, she would be found in the family vault at Kensall Green Cemetery, and, probably, in an advanced stage of decomposition, covered with a tombstone, upon which her many

virtues were recorded. (Laughter.) The prisoner then appeared to have gone to Sheerness, and he was apprehended at that place on the charge of obtaining goods from tradesmen by false pretences, and was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and at the expiration of that punishment the present charge was preferred against him. When the defendant was called upon to say whether he had anything to urge why sentence should not be passed upon him, he addressed the Court, and said that he denied in a most positive manner the truth of a great many of the allegations that had been made against him. He admitted that his life had been a most adventurous one since his return from the Crimea, but he denied that he had led the life of a swindler. He said that he belonged to a family of distinction, but for some reason or other different members of his family were desirous of getting rid of him. With regard to the charge of obtaining money from the Earl of Derby by forging the name of Mrs. Chisholm, he said that, although he had aided in that transaction, he was not the originator of it, and he believed at the time that Mrs. Chisholm was dead. The Common Serjeant, addressing the prisoner, said that he had pleaded guilty to two indictments charging him with obtaining money by fraud, and another which charged him with perjury, and, by his own admission, he had also been guilty of conspiracy. This was not the first occasion on which he had been guilty of defrauding the Government and obtaining money by false pretences from the Royal bounty; and there was no doubt that he was a most dangerous person. The sentence upon him would be penal servitude for ten years.

The grand jury have returned true bills against all the prisoners charged with scuttling the ship *Seymour*.

GRAND BANQUET GIVEN TO MR. GLADSTONE IN PARIS.

The Paris correspondent of *The Times* gives an enthusiastic account of the banquet which was given to Mr. Gladstone on Saturday night by the Society of Political Economy, of which we have already heard by the telegraph. The dinner took place at the Grand Hotel, and long before the hour fixed the saloon was filled. At half-past seven Mr. Gladstone, with Mr. Cardwell and the nephew of the latter gentleman, made his appearance, accompanied by M. Wolowski, who presented to the distinguished guests several prominent members of the society. The dinner took place in the great dining-room on the ground floor, and 112 persons sat down to table. M. Hippolyte Passy presided. Mr. Gladstone sat on his right hand, and Mr. Cardwell on his left. Next to Mr. Gladstone was M. Forcade de la Roquette, the new Minister of Commerce and Public Works; and next to him M. Wolowski, Member of the Institute, Professor at the Conservatoire des Arts et Météors. By the side of Mr. Cardwell was M. Renouard, a judge in the High Court of Cassation, former Peer of France, and one of the oldest members of the Society of Political Economy. When dinner was over M. Passy rose and proposed the health of their distinguished guests in a brief speech, in which he spoke of the honour done them all by the presence among them of a man of transcendent genius, who had rendered such signal services to his own country and to mankind. M. Passy's observations were received with great applause, which was again and again renewed when Mr. Gladstone rose. Although the right honourable gentleman is reported to have spoken with such remarkable purity in Italian at Florence he seems to have distrusted his French, for the speech of three-quarters of an hour long in which he acknowledged the compliments paid to him was delivered in English, but this seems to have been of no importance, for according to the reporter, though comparatively few of the guests knew much of our language, somehow or other all seemed to understand what was said without the help of an interpreter. Mr. Gladstone began by thanking the society for the honour they paid him by their invitation, and especially by the manner in which they echoed the remarks of their president. He modestly alluded to what he had done during his tenure of office as Chancellor of the Exchequer. Alluding to the Treaty of Commerce, he said that the part he had in it was merely secondary. There were two persons to whom the real merit was due; first, the Emperor Napoleon, but for whose strong will and perseverance that great act never would have been accomplished, for it was he who, in spite of obstacles which would have deterred anyone else, transformed what had once been but a pleasing dream into a brilliant and solid reality; and next, to Mr. Cobden. What Mr. Gladstone's hearers remarked and admired in his address (says his reporter) was the earnestness, the appearance of profound conviction, and, so to speak, the religious feeling which pervaded it; then that manly tone, that fascinating simplicity of manner, far beyond the reach of the mere rhetorician, which, perhaps, more than anything else impressed his hearers, the great majority of whom then heard him and saw him for the first time, and which riveted their attention, and even won him their affection. They were struck, too, by his delivery—slow and deliberate; every sentence full of meaning, and so complete, that the speech might be printed off as it was uttered, without the change of a word, or even of a comma.

Mr. Cardwell, in a short speech, returned thanks for the honour done to himself and his distinguished friend. He alluded to the great services rendered by the late Sir Robert Peel to his country and to the cause of civilization throughout the world. These and M. Passy's introductory remarks were the only speeches delivered on the occasion. About half-past ten o'clock the company separated.

Mr. Gladstone dined at the Tuileries on Sunday. The Emperor had invited him for Saturday, but on hearing that he had been asked for that day by the Political Economy Society courteously changed his invitation to Sunday. He was to dine yesterday with M. Rouher.

On Saturday morning one of the boilers attached to the Helton Coal Railway, at Sunningland, supplying steam to the stationary engines which draw the coal waggons, exploded, and caused much destruction of property. The boiler was one of three, two of which were in use, and the third was undergoing repairs at the time. It was about six feet in diameter, and thirty feet long. Fortunately the only persons near were a mason and a lad, who were under the fire-hole of the boiler out of use, doing some repairs; they escaped by a miracle almost uninjured. The shed covering the boilers was blown away; the boiler was lifted bodily from its bed of masonry, and flattened out like a sheet of paper, one end being blown across the railway. The engine chimney is rent from top to bottom, several feet of the upper part carried away, and it will have to be taken down. The roof of a cottage was knocked in on to a bed where a child lay, but the child fortunately escaped with a few bruises. A piece of pipe was blown to the west, and one end buried in the ground to the depth of three feet. The roof of Messrs. Hartley and Co.'s glass works was much injured, and in Hedley-street, more than 300 yards distant, a brick was shot through a house window, and seriously injured a woman who was sitting at her fireside.

MR. BRIGHT AND HIS WORKPEOPLE.

Mr. Bright's workpeople have presented him with an address, expressive of "their entire sympathy with and sincere respect for him under the malignant slanders which had been urged against him as their employer." In acknowledging the address, the hon. gentleman said:—"You know—every man and woman in this assembly knows—every honourable man in Rochdale knows—that there is not a shadow or a shade of foundation for the charges that have been made against me. To those who live in this neighbourhood, even, I should say, to a large portion of my countrymen, judging either from my life at home or my public career, they might have found a sufficient answer to those charges. Now I ask you, my friends, this question, because it is worth your while to consider, 'Why are all these slanders against us and against me?' There are 500 firms in this country whose business is carried on, who

that you may change laws or overthrow institutions; but I ask that you may be heard, and that when Parliament meets session after session, as it will meet the week after next, your great class, the most numerous and the most indispensable of all to the country, shall not be absolutely shut out. Now, I say without hesitation that I am sure, without chance of contradiction, that it is mainly because I put in this claim for the people that I have been thus assailed." Mr. Bright referred to the charge brought against him of not supporting the Factory Act. He said, "I was against any interference by Parliament with the freedom of labour and of capital. I did not wish to trust a Parliament of landowners with the control and the disposition of labour and capital in this country. I knew by their infamous corn law, which had lasted for thirty years, they had confiscated an untold and countless amount of the labour and capital of England with a view of turning it into the channel of rent for them-

CORA PEARL IN PARIS.

THE Menken has a most dangerous rival in her own peculiar style of art, for unquestionably "the" sensation of the hour in Paris is the appearance of Cora in *Cupid at the Bouffes*. The French papers are in ecstasies about her "costume diaphane qui commence bien au-dessus du genou pour se terminer bien au dessous de la poitrine." One gentleman, of the name of de Gasperin, is awfully excited this morning in the columns of the *Liberté*. After a long description of the charms of "la blonde deesse," he concludes in the impassioned burst of which the following is a literal translation:—

"See here certainly one of those joys incomparable, one of those holidays without a rival, which illuminate the life of a man—one of those grand entertainments (*regals*) for which no one dares to hope, never thinks of realising. Cora Pearl! Cora Pearl! who sees any one but Cora? Who thinks of any one but Cora?"

Some of our theatrical critics must envy the honied pen of this writer, now that actions for libel are of such common occurrence.

The costume and diamonds of Cora Pearl (as exhibited to the *habitués* of the Bouffes on Saturday last), are just now the talk of Paris. The corsage of her dress was literally a mass of brilliants. She wore a splendid aigrette in her hair, and bracelets on her arms, composed of the same precious stones. She actually "blazed" with diamonds. Just before appearing on the stage the Prince N. gave her an ornament for her hair, for which he paid 50,000 francs. She had many rivals in brilliancy among her audience. One lady, Madame de S., has no less than £10,000 worth of diamonds in her bonnet!

THERE are two cases reported in the north of Scotland of individuals who have perished in the snow. An ingenious carrier, who travels between the sea-side village of Gamrie and the port of Banff, finding the road blocked up by land, embarked in a boat, and made his double journey without accident. Individual hardships were multitudinous. In one case a marriage had to be delayed a day, the parties not being able to meet. A Deeside correspondent chronicles, as something quite refreshing, the meeting of a marriage party, three gentlemen accompanying the bride, who had a forty miles journey before them on horseback to the wedding.



IRISH BOGWOOD GATHERERS. (See Page 535.)

employ great numbers of people, many far more than we do, who have their transactions of every kind, who may have occasionally little or great differences with their workmen, but of all these 500, 499 are left untouched, and we, and I alone am assailed by these men. Whence come these charges and these slanders? They come, as you know, chiefly from obscure men in the Tory ranks. Occasionally you hear of them from some obscure man, who by accident or party has been raised for a few months into the position of a Minister of the Crown. Our assailants, if you examine the matter for a moment, you will find are the monopolists of political power in the country, and the base creatures who for selfish purposes are found crawling about them? What is my crime? That I have resisted this monopoly of power—that since the first hour I stepped upon a public platform and took part in political questions I have pleaded for the rights of the millions of the people of this country. All I ask is that you may be heard in the hall where it is said the representatives of the people are accustomed to assemble. I do not ask

selves, and therefore I did not like this body of men to meddle with the question. But I rejoice as much as any one of you can rejoice that you now are working 10½ hours daily, instead of 11½ hours, as before."

THE oldest man in the United States is John Smith, who lives at Pleasant Mills, New Jersey. He is 117 years of age, he sees well, hears well, speaks well, and walks well. America has the advantage of the old country in this respect. The oldest man known in Great Britain is in his 110th year as may be seen from our last week's impression.

SEVERAL of our contemporaries have been endeavouring to lead the public to believe that they are conversant with the intention of Her Majesty's Government on the question of Reform. We are in a position to state, on the best authority, that at present no correct report as to the course the Ministry propose to take on the subject has appeared.

AMONG the skaters on the reserved lake in the Bois de Boulogne on Sunday week, about twenty ladies were remarked, the Princess de Metternich being of the number. The Princess Achille and Lucien Murat, the Marquis de Caux, Prince J. Troubeskoi, the Marquis de Saint Mars, Baron de Pourtales, and M. des Varannes were also present. On the previous day the Prince Imperial arrived at two o'clock, and was shortly afterwards followed by the Empress, and at about three by the Emperor. His Majesty remained on the ice until half-past four, the public keeping at a respectful distance. The Empress, on having her skates adjusted, glided off, accompanied by M. and Mlle. Hanseler.

WE learn that a party of gentlemen will arrive by the steamer *Henry Chauncey*, from New York, with the intention of proceeding to San Francisco, and thence by the first steamer to Japan and China on a pleasure excursion. This is probably the longest pleasure trip ever undertaken, and will be quite a novelty.—*Panama Star*.



EVICTED OF IRISH TENANTRY. (See Page 535.)



THE ERUPTION IN ALGERIA. (See Page 542.)

Opinions of the Press.

THE DESIDERATA OF REFORM.

The *Times* holds that the agreement of the leaders of opinion, representing as they do different habits of thought on the principles of Reform, ought to make the problem of Reform simple. They are unanimous on the necessity of preserving that distinctive character of the House of Commons which makes it an epitome of our national life, and there ought to be no insuperable difficulty in defining the objects to be sought after in any reform of its composition, or in devising plans by which these objects might be secured. We may, even now, enunciate the main desiderata. All classes are represented in the House of Commons, but they are not represented in proportion to their importance, and the qualifications of electors are so fixed that many are excluded from exercising the suffrage who may justly aspire to that privilege. These are the great defects, and the latter of them is the more important. Men are apt to be content, provided they have an advocate of their own choosing, as they are generally so confident of the justice of their own cause as to believe that it must make its way when once it is fairly argued. The emancipation of the unfranchised would remove a possible source of danger, and would undoubtedly add to the stability of the Constitution. It is dangerous to continue in a course which exposes the sincerity of the House of Commons to suspicion, and which can only end in a sharp cut of the Gordian knot. The policy of delays may serve to produce a feeling of angry disappointment, and if it be thought desirable that disappointment should deepen into exasperation, no better policy can be adopted. Constitutional Reformers must be prepared to prove their earnestness by their willingness to fall in with any plan which will accomplish the problem of Reform. Those who desire to maintain a grievance, and look forward with satisfaction to the prospect of an "ugly rush," may oppose every practical suggestion; those who would improve the Constitution by constitutional methods should accept any, come from what quarter it may.

PROMOTION IN THE ARMY.

The *Telegraph* complains of the distribution of patronage in the army. Here is the Honourable John Yorke suddenly promoted to the rank of commander in the navy. Here is Captain Filgate, no longer a soldier, appointed military secretary to the new Governor of Bombay. And why is the promotion of the first hurried, and the appointment of the second effected? Because Commander Yorke is the son of a stout Tory, the Earl of Hardwicke; and Captain Filgate is the son-in-law of Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald. And why is it proposed to make Prince Christian colonel of a cavalry regiment? Because he is the husband of a British princess. Political usages may extenuate the hasty promotion of Commander Yorke, Captain Filgate's appointment is a violation of all precedent, the grant of a regiment to Prince Christian would be a flagrant anachronism; but all three events would have a common root—advancement for reasons other than desert. Nor is this by any means the whole sum of the matter. There is another consideration which the public and Parliament should bear in mind. Prince Christian, as a regimental colonel, would simply intercept the honour and the pay of some old and gallant British officer, perhaps one who had materially helped, at the peril of life and limb, to save an empire. And if, not content with the honorary rank of major-general, Prince Christian aspires to the colonelcy of a cavalry regiment, what security have we that his honorary rank may not be converted into substantial rank, and that his name will not, sooner or later, figure on the fixed establishment? If he were to acquire that position, not only would he injure the interests of British officers, but he would be eligible for command; and what guarantee have we that in the event of war he would not get a command? There is no lack of precedents in the bad old times. The history of every country is crowded with pages recounting how ambitious princes, in the pride of birth, accepted commands, and exercised them, to their country's ruin. The moral of all this is that the Crown should be relieved from the constitutionally false position in which it stands; the Minister of War should be, in fact as well as in theory, responsible to Parliament.

IRISH DIFFICULTIES.

The *Herald* remarks that without the co-operation of the Roman Catholic hierarchy and priesthood but little progress can be made in forwarding the welfare of Ireland; and this is not to be expected so long as they wield the enormous influence they possess over the electors of their creed in the irrational manner they have latterly exercised it. What can be more calculated to prevent an attentive consideration of the condition of the small Irish landholders, or to render legislation on the subject impossible, than sending members to Parliament who, under guise of patriotism, propose measures which they know perfectly well it would be impossible for any administration to carry, and who waste the time of the House of Commons by senseless declamations against a Government under which they at once accept place when they have made themselves sufficiently troublesome to be worth securing—what more inconsistent than to find them, as in the case of Colonel White and others, depriving men of their seats because they supported the Whigs when in office, and on the change of Ministry returning those same men again, although adhering to their former politics, only because they are the opponents of Conservatism, and that, too, although no act of the individuals themselves or of their party has in the interim justified such a sudden and extraordinary change of opinion. The Catholics of Ireland must be aware from past experience that a Conservative Ministry alone can remedy even the well-founded causes of their discontent, for they alone enjoy the confidence of those from whom opposition might be anticipated, and who at their hands would submit to pecuniary sacrifices which they would unflinchingly refuse to make if demanded by others avowedly hostile to their interest. Prudence as well as common sense should dictate that statesman, many of whom are deeply interested in the prosperity of Ireland, should be allowed to develop their policy and introduce their measures for its benefit before being encountered by a factious and unmerited opposition.

THE LICENSING SYSTEM.

The *Star* insists that for drunkenness a moral check is the only effectual one, and a moral check cannot be conveniently applied by deputed legal licensers. There are two modes in which drunkenness may be attacked by public opinion. One of them is the obvious, and, after all, the best one of personal suasion and individual improvement. Archbishop Manning, who laments so bitterly that drunkenness has increased during the last thirty years—which, with all respect for "drunken statistics," one cannot help seriously doubting—is enabled to bear gratifying testimony that last St. Patrick's Day his admonitions kept the Irish from over-indulgence, and that he has found a "Saturday Night Association" of the

greatest benefit to working-class Roman Catholics in protecting them from the temptations which assail them when their pockets are full. Similar examples might be multiplied. Of course it cannot be said drunkenness is only to be attacked in this way, but any attempt to check drunkenness by checking the multiplication of public-houses must be made by the action of public opinion if it is to be at all effectual. The most unobjectionable method of bringing this wholesome influence to bear would be to deposit the power of licensing with municipal bodies, whose action in the matter would closely correspond with the state of local feeling, and always be amenable to the judgment and wishes of the most intelligent and moral members of the local community.

RECKLESS SKATERS.

The *Times* asks whether it is seriously argued that Parliament is to provide means for keeping grown-up men by force from venturing upon ice which they have been told in plain terms is not strong enough to bear them? Is a cordon of the Guards or the whole metropolitan police to be drawn round the Serpentine, where some 20,000 people may be congregated on a frosty Sunday? Is it to be a penal offence to venture on ice of insufficient thickness? If so, what is insufficient thickness? Does it depend on the weight of the offender? Is the ten-stone man to be discharged and the fourteen-stone man convicted? Then is the Act to be universal, requiring the "local authority" of every city, borough, or district to keep the public off all frozen water? These and many other questions must naturally arise if such an Act is to be worked. Then there is the temper of those who would be balked of their amusement to be considered. Every frosty day we should stand the chance of a Beales-riot. The real remedy must rest with the public themselves. If people are told that the ice is dangerous, and they persist on going on it, there is no infirmity in saying that they must take the consequences. It is certainly right that there should be a supervision in the parks, that the ice should be examined, boards put up with full warning, and such means taken for the security of the public as are consistent with the belief that they are reasonable beings. This, however, appears to be already done; and anything in the way of coercion is wholly inexpedient. As a matter of justice, too, one must say that it is not the duty of the ratepayers to provide an extra police force for this purpose, and still less to divert the present police, already insufficient, from their ordinary duties whenever there is a frost.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTION.

Dr. Odling delivered the Friday evening lecture at this institution; the subject being "Professor Graham's recent discoveries on the diffusion of gases,"—the experiment shown some time since at one of the soirées of the Royal Society of sucking air through an indiarubber bag into a mercury vacuum formed in a Sprengel tube, by which means sufficient additional oxygen was secured in the air so strained as to suffice for the re-lighting of extinguished tapers. The combustion of charcoal and other similar phenomena was first explained, and then the lectures proceeded to detail the various actions of platinum, indiarubber, parchment, and other septa upon different gases and gaseous compounds, pointing out the difference between this dialytic penetration in Professor Graham's experiments and the phenomena of transpiration and diffusion. The penetration of indiarubber by equal volumes of gas was next illustrated, the relative times being for carbonic acid gas, 1.00; hydrogen, 2.47; oxygen, 5.31; marsh gas, 6.32; air, 11.85; carbonic oxide, 12.20; nitrogen, 13.58. The velocity of the passage of the gas was thus given:—By penetration—nitrogen, 1.0; marsh gas, 2.15; oxygen, 2.35; hydrogen, 5.50; carbonic acid, 13.58; by diffusion—nitrogen, 1.01; marsh gas, 1.34; oxygen, 0.95; hydrogen, 3.80; carbonic acid, 0.81; by transpiration—nitrogen, 1.14; marsh gas, 1.81; oxygen, 1.81; hydrogen, 2.28; carbonic acid, 1.37. Now, as the proportion of oxygen and nitrogen in common air is as 21 to 79, if the oxygen filter through at 2½ times the rate of nitrogen, we should then expect to find in the filtered air, as we actually do, some 40 per cent. of that gas. The rate of diffusion, it was stated, appeared to be inversely as the square roots of the specific gravities of the respective gases.

A variety of experiments were performed, amongst them a very interesting one of the action of a septum of platinum upon coal gas. Platinum, in its cold state, does not permit the slightest passage of the coal gas, nor does it do so when moderately hot; but heated to a red heat it very freely permits penetration, but is still impervious to every other kind of gas. The effect produced on the coal gas by its filtration through the platinum is very evident upon its ignition; the coal gas burning before filtration with a bright flame, but after filtration with hardly any luminous properties. The customary hour devoted to these lectures having expired, Dr. Odling was obliged to bring somewhat abruptly his discourse to a conclusion, receiving the permission of the council to deliver a further lecture after Easter. Before doing so, however, he briefly pointed out some of the main distinctions which distinguish the phenomena in these experiments by Mr. Graham from those of diffusion, with which they are very closely allied. The lecture, so far as it went, was a most admirable one, but too technical to report here in greater detail.

THE FORTHCOMING OPENING OF PARLIAMENT BY HER MAJESTY.

Workmen are now busily engaged in erecting a barrier, under the superintendence of the Board of Works, at the entrance to the corridor leading to the Peers' Lobby from the Central Hall, in order to prevent as much as possible any overcrowding of members on the approaching opening of Parliament, when the Commons are summoned to attend at the bar of the House of Lords to hear her Majesty's speech delivered. This barrier is to be 3ft. 6in. in width, and 3ft. 6in. in height, with a bar across, and is to be erected in order that the Speaker and his train-bearer may pass through without interruption, and then the members can pass through two abreast with comfort. It is also in contemplation to erect another barrier at the end of the corridor as another safeguard against any inconvenience from overcrowding. These precautionary means are taken in consequence of the confusion, &c., on the last occasion of her Majesty's opening Parliament in person, when a vast number of strangers by some means or other obtained access to the Central Hall and rushed in pell-mell with the members to the bar, thus adding much to the confusion and disorder at the time. On the present occasion, however, every entrance leading to the bar of the House will be safely guarded by the proper authorities, and not even the officials of either House will be allowed to pass through without an official pass, duly signed, under any pretence whatever.

THE ERUPTION IN ALGERIA.

The accompanying engraving is a faithful representation of the late eruption in Algeria.

Clippings from Punch and Fun.

(From "FOX.")

A LITERARY CURIOSITY.

We have received the following lines from a gentleman who signs himself "Agrippa Q. Squozgs." He assures us that they are original, composed by himself a few years since, and he wishes to know what "on air" our ancestors meant by pretending to be the authors of certain nursery rhymes which he quotes, and which certainly bear a suspicious resemblance to "Mr. Agrippa Q. Squozgs'" verses. We submit his poem to the public, but must leave the conflicting claims as to originality to be decided in the columns of our learned contemporary, *Notes and Queries*:—

Sing a song of dollars,
A pocket full of grass,
Five and thirty swollers
Baked in apple ass.
When they raised the liver
The birds began a-hoverin';
Wasn't that a tallish dish
To set before a sovereign!

The king was in the treasury
Totting up his sekie;
The queen was at the table d'hôte
Loading bread and treacle;
The help was down the garden
A-hangin' out the washin—
Down came a bobatink
And snapt off her proboscis.

THE VESTRIES.

At a meeting of the Vestry of the Parish of St. Doolittle, Mr. Nind Cumphoop in the chair,

Mr Nix rose to propose that the snows which one knows has arose don't disclose—

Mr. Noddle interrupted. He thought this sounded like poetry, and thought poetry was nonsense. It was not the nonsense they were intended to talk as enlightened vestrymen of St. Doolittle.

Mr. Fozzle agreed. With reference to all the talk about what vestries ought to do in the face of snowstorms—

Here several members arose, and for some time there was considerable confusion. The chairman, after taking a great deal of trouble to gather the sense of the meeting (in a tea-spoon), said that as far as he could ascertain, "all the members were unanimous"—they all wished to propose that the vestry should do nothing under the circumstances, but that each was anxious to submit his original proposition. The difficulty was finally solved by our reporter, who drew attention to the fact that there was nothing novel in the adoption of that course by a vestry.

THE PERILS OF RAILWAY TRAVELLING.

Mr. Charles Dickens has addressed the following letter to a contemporary:—

"Sir,—As it is better to prevent a horrible accident by a timely caution than sagaciously to observe after its occurrence that any one acquainted with the circumstances out of which it arose could have easily foreseen it, I beg most earnestly warn the public through your columns against the morning express train on the Midland Railway between Leicester and Bedford.

I took that train this morning, leaving Leicester at 9.35. The reckless fury of the driving and the violent rocking of the carriages obliged me to leave it at Bedford rather than come on to London with my through ticket. When we stopped at Market Harborough general alarm was expressed by the passengers, and strong remonstrances were urged on the officials, also, at Bedford. I am an experienced railway traveller at home and abroad; I was in the Staplehurst accident; I have been in trains under most conceivable conditions, but I have never been so shaken and flung about as in this train, and have never been in such obvious danger.

The very obliging authorities suggested that the road was "rough" from the thaw, and that I was in a light carriage. As to the first suggestion I am certain from experience on other railways since the thaw set in that there is no such "roughness" on other railways. As to the second, one of the passengers who protested the most strongly was a gentleman in a heavy carriage next to my own.

I may add that my companion in the carriage (who left the train with me) is almost constantly on English railways, and fully confirms what I have here written.—Your faithful servant,

Jan. 26.

CHARLES DICKENS.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.—A Royal proclamation, countersigned by General Peel, was published in the *London Gazette*, formally extending the right of obtaining the Victoria Cross to any person "serving with our troops, under the orders of a general or other officer, under circumstances which would entitle an officer or soldier of our army to be recommended for the said decoration, in accordance with the rules and ordinances prescribed in our said recited warrant, and provided, also, that such person shall be recommended for it by such general or other officer." It is also provided that a similar privilege shall be enjoyed by those "who may hereafter be employed in the local forces raised, or which may be raised, in our colonies and their dependencies, and who may be called upon to serve in co-operation with our troops, in military operations which it may be necessary to undertake for the suppression of rebellion against our authority, or for repelling invasion by a foreign enemy."

THE DEPTFORD AND GREENWICH RIOTS.—On Saturday night there was a threatened renewal of these riots, and to meet which a strong body of police was held in reserve for any emergency that might arise. During the afternoon the number of applicants at Mr. Pattie's, the relieving officer for Deptford, were most numerous, and a very large amount of relief was dispensed. A notice was then issued that no more relief would be given, and the constables on duty cleared the office, which, however, was surrounded for some time after, a rumour prevailing that the tradesmen's shops were again to be plundered. At this time, however, the rain set in, and the streets became quickly cleared, and the services of the police held in reserve were not required. In reference to the distress prevailing in the district, it may be mentioned that the Lords of the Admiralty, through Mr. Traill, police magistrate, have granted gratuitously five tons of biscuits baked at the Royal Victoria Victualling Yard, Deptford, and which have been distributed among the several clergy of the district and the managers of the various soup kitchens.

ANTECEDENTS OF LITERARY MEN.

From a speech delivered by the Rev. Geo. Gillan, we extract the following:—"The time surely has gone by when it can be doubted whether talent and genius could be reared in a warehouse or shop. A thousand instances throng upon my recollection to prove that they can. Samuel Richardson, author of 'Pamela' and 'Clarissa,' a man whose power over the passions is scarcely inferior to Shakespeare, was a printer, and kept besides a stationer's shop. William Godwin, the immortal author of 'Caleb Williams,' at one period of his life, opened a shop of picture books for children. Smollett—a name of which Scotland is still proud—was, in his early days, a surgeon's apprentice in Glasgow, and saw, while selling pills and compounding potions, those humours and oddities of life which he afterwards inscribed on the undying pages of 'Roderick Random' and 'Humphrey Clinker.' Charles Lamb, the gentle, the exquisite, the inimitable Elia, was a clerk in the India House, and wrote at one time invoices, and at other times immortalities. Keats, one of the truest and divinest poets that ever breathed, was in his early days an apprentice to an apothecary, and would drop the pestle to lift the pen which wrote his Ode to the Nightingale and his Hymn to Pan. Wordsworth was a distributor of stamps, as well as the author of the 'Excursion.' Thomas Hood once occupied some commercial situation in this very town (Dundee), living in the house of worthy old Mr. Gardiner, whom most of us remember keeping a grocer's shop in the Overgate. Alex. Smith, author of the 'Life Drama,' and now secretary to the University of Edinburgh, was, when I first knew him, a pattern-drawer in a Glasgow warehouse, not earning a pound a week. Sidney Yendys, or Dobell, the author of the brilliant 'Roman' and of the incomprehensible and critic-baffling 'Balder,' was, till within a few years ago, a wine-merchant with his accomplished cousin, Alfred Mott, author of 'Amberhill De Stillis.' Ruskin's parents kept a shop—I fear it was a spirit shop. When, some years ago, I called upon the gifted Charles Swain, in Manchester, I found him in a warehouse, and with a quill behind his ears. Nay, one of the best ascertained facts connected with the latter history of Shakespeare himself is, finding him selling corn and malt in his native town of Stratford-on-Avon. So that, on the whole, literature and poetry have not been a whit the worse, but all the better, of smelling of the shop."

FEARFUL STRUGGLE FOR LIFE WITH A MADMAN.—Tintagel, a watering-place on the northern coast of Cornwall, has recently been the scene of a terrible struggle between a lunatic and his attendant. A man named Smith, who had for a long time been engaged in conveying sand from the sea-side to the farms in the neighbourhood, was seen to be suffering from mental derangement, and, as he used threats of self-destruction, his neighbours undertook to sit up with him at night. On Friday the duty fell upon a man named Thomas Baker, who lived near. In the course of the night, in order to humour one of the lunatic's whims, he accompanied him for a walk on the turnpike-road, which is cut through the rock. At one point the road is open to the sea, and on arriving at this spot the insane man suddenly grasped his companion and attempted to throw him down into the water. A desperate struggle for life ensued, but the frenzy of madness gave to Smith such tremendous power that his watcher was but like an infant in his grasp, and in a minute or two Baker was forced down into the water, his murderer falling with him. Two women were passing near the spot and helplessly watched the affray, and saw that when in the water the struggle was renewed, Smith keeping his victim down until a heavy roller came in and washed them both away. On Saturday afternoon the body of Smith was cast on shore.

The following anecdote was narrated by an officer of the regular United States cavalry:—"One morning, when our army was wasting in vain in the Chickahominy swamps, some of our pickets, while getting up a bit of breakfast by the roadside, were startled with, 'How are ye, boys?' The Feds looked, and lo! over the bushes was staring, with what was meant to be a particularly conciliating grin, one of the most grotesque of Irish faces appended to the worst of Irish bodies. 'And what are ye, gentlemen?' he inquired. 'Making coffee: have some?' was the laconic answer. 'Ye won't be after shootin' or captivat'n me?' was the cool reply. 'Devil a bit of it: come down!'—By me sowl, and it's v'ry temptin' ye are, and the illigant manners that ye've got intirely; and it's meself that likes the company of gintlemen, as can afford to have their bite and sup of the caw-fy every day. Sure, and it's beautifol that yeek make it. A cup is nothing when it's so good.'—'Well, take another.'—'An' I just will. Sure, and that's splendiferous caw-fy. The ribbles—bad cess to them! (sinking his voice to a confidential whisper) don't give us a devil a taste av the stuff.'—'Well, take another cup!'—'Yeess won't call it bad manners av I do. Sure, an' ye're so polite. Sure, ye seem to be comfortable avintirely; and ye have clothes and the hoight av good livin'!'—'That's so.'—'Well, boys (with an insinuating Irish smile, intended to be extremely enticing), I believe I'll stay by the caw-fy, and quit the ribbles intirely.' And Pat was as good as his word; he remained with the coffee and the Union. —*American Paper.*

AN INSECT DESTROYER.—Much the largest number of fleas are brought into our family circles by pet-dogs and cats, and the pigstye is generally filled with them at this season of the year, when numbers will hop on you when visiting it for the purpose of feeding or inspection. The oil of pennyroyal will drive these insects off; but a cheaper method, where the herb flourishes, is to throw your dogs and cats into a decoction of it once a week. Mow the herb and scatter it in the beds of the pigs once a month. I have seen this done for many years in succession. Where the herb cannot be got the oil may be procured. In this case, saturate strings with it and tie them round the necks of dogs and cats; pour a little on the back and about the ears of hogs, which you can do while they are feeding with-out touching them. By repeating these applications every twelve or fifteen days the fleas will flee from your quadrupeds, to their relief and improvement, and to your relief and comfort in the house. String saturated with the oil of pennyroyal and tied around the neck and tail of horses will drive off lice; the strings should be saturated once a day. Mint freshly cut and hung round a bedstead, or on the bed furniture, will prevent annoyance from bed insects. —*Gardener's Magazine.*

THE RHINOCEROS'S FRIEND.—The rhinoceros's friend, and the rhinoceros hunter's most tiresome enemy, is a little bird, the *Buphago Uricus*, vulgarly known as the rhinoceros bird. It constantly attends on the huge beast, feeding on the ticks that infest its hide, the bird's long claws and elastic tail enabling it to hold fast to whatever portion of the animal it fancies. If it rendered the rhinoceros no further service than ridding him of these biting pests, it would deserve his gratitude; but, in addition, it does him the favour of warning him of the approach of the hunter. With its ears as busy as its beak, the little sentinel detects danger afar off, and at once shoots up in the air, uttering a sharp and peculiar note, which the rhinoceros is not slow to understand and take advantage of; he doesn't wait to make inquiry, but moves off at once. Cumming asserts that when the rhinoceros is asleep, and the Buphago fails to wake him with its voice, it will peck the inside of his ears, and otherwise exert itself to rouse its thick-headed friend.

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On January 31, Madrigals and Part-Songs. Soloists—Miss Edith Wynne and Madame Sainton-Dolby.

On February 28 the selection will comprise Madrigals and Part-Songs, and will include Mendelssohn's Psalm for Double Choir, "Why rage fiercely the heathen?" Soloist—Madame Lemmens-Schiering.

On April 4 the usual Lenten Concert will be given, on which occasion will be performed Mendelssohn's Eight-part Psalm, "Judge me, O God!" Mendelssohn's Anthem, "Hear my Prayer," and other unaccompanied compositions. Soloists—Miss Louisa Ynace and Mr. W. Cummings.

The arrangements for the May Concert will be shortly completed, and further engagements announced as early as possible.

Season subscription to the stalls (numbered and reserved) one guinea. Season subscription to the balcony half-a-guinea. These tickets are transferable. Tickets for each concert:—Sofa stalls, numbered and reserved, 6s.; family ditto, to admit four, £1 1s.; balcony 3s.; reserved area, 2s. Admission 1s.

On Wednesday evening, February 13, at St. James's hall, Mr. Henry Leslie will give a performance of Mendelssohn's "Antigone." The remaining portion of the programme will be selected from the works of Mendelssohn and will include the Italian Symphony; the overture, Ruy Blas; and the concerto for the violin, for which Herr Joachim has been engaged. The band will comprise the most distinguished instrumentalists of the metropolis. In order to give due effect to the music of the metropolis, the chorus will number 240 male voices, consisting of the members of Mr. Henry Leslie's choir, the Royal Italian Opera, and the leading musical societies of London.

On Wednesday evening, March 13, Mendelssohn's "Antigone" will be repeated. On this occasion the programme will be selected from the works of the great masters. Conductor, Mr. Henry Leslie.

Sofa Stalls, 10s. 6d.; balcony, 5s.; subscribers to the concerts of Mr. Henry Leslie's choir will be charged 7s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. respectively. Balcony seats under gallery, 3s.; area (reserved), 5s.; area, 2s. 6d.; gallery, 1s. Tickets may be had of L. Cock, Addison, and Co., 63, New Bond-street; Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheap-side; and at Austin's ticket-office, St. James's-hall, 28, Piccadilly.

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